



GERALDTON
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Social Media Policy

VISION STATEMENT

GERALDTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL WILL PROVIDE OUTSTANDING EDUCATION AND A STRONG SENSE OF COMMUNITY, CULTIVATING PEOPLE OF INTEGRITY, INDEPENDENCE OF MIND AND A LOVE OF LEARNING.

Introduction	This statement outlines the Geraldton Grammar School policy the expectations of those who are part of the school community, when using Social Media, to show courtesy and respect to others, including those within the school community.
Scope and application	Policy applies to all employees of Geraldton Grammar School but mainly the policy makers – members of the senior management.
Related legislation and guidelines	No legislation but all AISWA guidelines are used as a format for this policy.
Related Policies	Learning Technologies Policy, Behaviour Management Policy, Staff Code of Conduct Policy, School Community Code of Conduct Policy, Anti-Bullying Policy
Evaluation	Annual

Date	Action (issue, reissue, amendment, replacement of pages, etc)	Initials
2011	Drafted	AFY/JRE
2/2012	Amended	SMT
27/3/13	Crested amended	SPN
24/07/15	Amended – Definitions, Social Media for Staff updated	NJE
25/01/16	Removed Staff Section	NJE
08/02/17	Minor change	NJE

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

1 Introduction

All those who are part of the Geraldton Grammar School community, students, parents, teachers, administrative staff, have the right to benefit from the opportunities that exist from being members of our community. They should all behave within and outside of the school in such a manner that the image of the school is not negatively affected or brought into disrepute.

The school accepts that the use of Social Media can be an effective business and social tool and that such media is commonly used by the school community to express their views, comments, ideas and criticism on a whole range of issues.

2 Purpose

The school expects those who are part of the Geraldton Grammar community, when using Social Media, to show courtesy and respect to others, including those within the school community. Social Media should not be used to abuse others, expose them to offensive or inappropriate content or to denigrate or show disrespect for our school.

The purpose of this policy is to set standards of behaviour for the use of Social Media that are consistent with the broader values and expectations of the Geraldton Grammar School community.

3 Definitions

Social Media – refers to all social networking site (List of the top 16 sites used Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, Pinterest, Google Plus+, Tumblr, Instagram, Flickr, Vine, Ask.fm, Snapchat, Burn Note, Whisper, Yik Yak, and Kik Messenger).

4 Scope

This policy applies to our school community, staff, students and parents.

5 Rights and Responsibilities

The school community is expected to show respect to others, including members of the school community. Members of the school community are also expected to give due respect to the reputation and good name of Geraldton Grammar School.

When using Social Media, our community is expected to ensure that they:

- Respect the rights and confidentiality of others.
- Do not impersonate or falsely represent another person.
- Do not bully, intimidate, abuse, harass or threaten others.
- Do not make defamatory or discriminatory comments.
- Do not use obscene or offensive language towards others.
- Do not post content that is false, hateful, threatening, pornographic or incites violence against others.
- Do not use criticism to portray a person as socially, mentally, physically or intellectually inferior as a prohibited behaviour.

6 Breach of this Policy

A breach of this policy may also involve a breach of other school policies such as:

- Learning Technologies Policy
- Behaviour Management Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct Policy
- School Community Code of Conduct Policy

Any breach of this policy will be considered by the Principal or his/her delegate, such as the Heads of School. This issue will be dealt with on a case by case basis.

All reports of cyber bullying and other technology misuses will be investigated fully and may result in a notification to either the eSafety Commissioner or the Police where the school is legally obliged to do so.

Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, the loss of computer privileges, detention, suspension, or expulsion from the school. Students must be aware that in certain circumstances where a crime has been committed, they may be subjected to a criminal investigation by Police or the eSafety Commissioner over which the school will have no control.

Parents who breach this policy may be asked to withdraw their child from the school in cases which adversely reflect on Geraldton Grammar in accordance with the School Community Code of Conduct Policy.