Eaves Primary School 'Excellence in Everything'



Social Networking Policy

January 2023

| Status | Non-Statutory |
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| Responsible Governors' Committee | Resources commitee |
| Responsible Person | Mrs N Kearney |
| Review Date | January 2025 |
| Last Amended Date | January 2021 |

<u>Purpose</u>

The internet attracts an audience of millions and has changed the lives of many children, both in school, and at home. The internet is used for a variety of reasons - researching, communicating and networking.

In recent years we have seen an increase in the use of social networking websites by primary aged children, even though the age restrictions of many social networking websites, in particular Facebook, is 13. The purpose of this policy is to educate and advise on how to use these sites safely.

Social networking websites, as referred to in this policy are those which allow communities to interact with each other online through chat, messaging, video, video chat (web camera), file sharing, blogging, discussion groups and more.

Accessing Social Networking Websites from Eaves Primary School

Eaves Primary School does not allow access to social networking websites from its computers at any time.

Personal Conduct

Whilst Eaves Primary School respects the child's right to a private life the school must also ensure that confidentiality and respect of all pupils, staff and families is upheld at all times. Children should at no point behave in a way that is deemed as bullying, harassing or discriminatory towards other children, families or staff.

The Governors of Eaves Primary School respect the right staff have to a private life but must insist that they are not friends with children or parents. Staff should not comment on school life in a negative way or use the names of individuals.

Disciplinary Action

Any breach of this policy will be dealt with through the school, following the advice and recommendations from the local authority. Any member of staff who feel they cannot follow what is set down in this policy must be prepared to justify their actions to the Governing Body. Parents of children using websites under-age must understand the school's responsibility of ensuring the safety of pupils and staff at all times.