



Twitter Usage Policy

2023-2025

In this technology rich world our pupils, parents and the wider community live in, Social Media is becoming more and more part of daily life. When agencies like Ofsted release new guidance on Twitter days before it appears elsewhere, it's important that staff at S Catherine of Siena embrace Twitter to not only keep up to date with important changes that can impact learning in their classroom but also to connect with teachers across the globe who are sharing resources, ideas and discussing important aspects of education. This policy will explain acceptable use of Twitter relating to St Catherine of Siena Catholic Primary School twitter account: '@StCathsofSiena'

The policy will explain the purpose of Twitter in St Catherin of Siena School and the benefits that will arise from its proper use.

Aims of Using Twitter:

To quickly share and celebrate the achievements, successes and school updates.

To demonstrate safe and responsible use of social media.

To encourage the use of 21st Century technology.

For staff to engage in educational discussions that can enrich their own practice.

The St Catherine of Siena School Twitter accounts will:

- run from school devices by senior leaders and class teachers.

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- *be used principally to be followed by staff, parents and other professionals in order to advertise the excellent work by staff, children, parents and governors.*
- *be Public accounts (February 2014).*
- *welcome any referencing, mentions, or interactions that showcase the school in a **positive light**.*
- *only be able to receive replies on Twitter. This is not a platform to discuss or debate school related issues.*
- *only use pupils' first names when referencing children.*
- *only post photos of working and learning in groups which is mirrored on the school website policy.*

Senior Leadership will be responsible for:

- *deleting any inappropriate content that may undermine the school, its staff, parents, governors or others affiliated with the school.*
- *monitoring followers and block any who appear to not be school focused*

All school staff will ensure that:

- *individually targeted content will not be posted e.g. "Well done Josh a better lesson today". Tweets to a year group or class along the lines of "Don't forget the..." are acceptable. Although always think about the most effective way to communicate important information.*
- *by endorsing Twitter we may be encouraging children to use Twitter so we will endeavour to reinforce e-safety rules such as "Never tweet anything that would be potentially upsetting; make sure we know how to report anything you finds that disturbs you; be careful who you talk to*

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they may not be all they appear; never meet anyone from Twitter world without telling parents.” etc.

What is inappropriate content and referencing and how will it be dealt with?

St Catherine of Siena School deems any of the following as inappropriate:

- Offensive language or remarks aimed at the school, its staff, parents, governors or others affiliated with the school;*
- Unsuitable images or content posted into its feed;*
- Unsuitable images or content finding its way from another’s account into St Catherine of Siena School*
- Images or text that infringe upon copyright;*
- Comments that aim to undermine the school, its staff, parents, governors or others affiliated with the school.*

Any inappropriate content will be reported to Twitter and its users will be blocked. Furthermore, incidents of a more serious nature may be reported to the appropriate authority.

IN NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD PUPILS BE ALLOWED TO FOLLOW STAFF.

Should this happen, the staff are to block the pupil and inform a member of the SLT at their earliest convenience.

Twitter’s own safety rules can be read on:

<https://support.twitter.com/groups/33-report-a-violation/topics/166-safety-center/articles/470968-safety-parent-and-teen-tips#>

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