FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Students today live in an exciting technological age where advances occur daily. We can all be in contact with the world almost instantaneously, but instant communication can have its drawbacks. As students, you need to be aware of potential issues, and the rules and regulations surrounding social media networks.

At BSSC we support the use of social media and online communities. We provide network facilities to enable your use and guidelines to help protect your privacy, and that of the college and its community. Respect the opinions and beliefs of your fellow students, teachers, and friends in your use of social media, and be open and honest in your use.

BSSC expects that you understand and follow these guidelines, and your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Dale Pearce

Disclaimer
BSSC reserves the right to delete any comments at any time. Users who persist in violating community guidelines may be barred from posting to this site.

Who to Contact with Questions
Any questions regarding the BSSC Facebook page, Twitter account, YouTube Channel or Google+ account can be emailed directly to our online moderator at bsscmedia@bssc.edu.au

We invite students, parents and anyone that can add value to BSSC to join our online community and share information, experiences and achievements; provide feedback and discuss relevant issues; and celebrate our schools successes past and present.
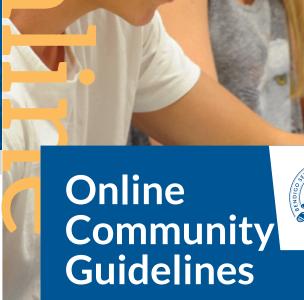
Online Community Guidelines

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CONNECT WITH US

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COUNCIL of INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS

Our **ROLE** is to empower learners for individual, community and global leadership. We value **R**espect, **O**ptimism, **L**earning and **E**nvironment.

Online Community Guidelines

Social media offers engagement with other students in Australia and overseas, colleagues, friends, and the world at large. These guidelines have been developed to help protect your reputation and to help you use social media forums effectively by complying with relevant BSSC policies and procedures.

SOCIAL MEDIA STARTS WITH THE 3 Rs: REPRESENT, RESPONSIBILITY AND RESPECT

Be clear about who you are **representing**. Never represent yourself or BSSC in a false or misleading way.

Take **responsibility** for ensuring the information you are sharing, including any references to BSSC, is factually correct and does not breach privacy.

Show **respect** for the individuals and communities you interact with. BSSC has a diverse range of staff and students with differing beliefs, values and opinions. Be respectful of those differences, and do not post offensive or frivolous comments.

BE TRANSPARENT

If writing about BSSC, state that you are a student. Always maintain confidentiality in relation to confidential and sensitive information and never identify another student by name without their permission.

BE HONEST

Everything you say must be true and not misleading in any way and all claims must be substantiated. Provide links to your sources wherever possible.

Being aware and considerate of others

BE POLITE

When disagreeing with others' opinions, keep it appropriate and polite. Do not get antagonistic or defensive, and try not to disengage abruptly from the conversation.

KNOW THE RULES

Remember there may be consequences to what you publish, and some may be serious. Do not write anything about a member of the college community or other schools that could be construed as slanderous, offensive or illegal.

USE A DISCLAIMER

Make it clear that the views and opinions expressed are yours and do not represent the views of BSSC or its community.

Consistently monitor your social media sites
Any social media site will require daily monitoring. By all means encourage discussion by posting quality content and questions. Quickly address any inappropriate messages or misuse. Such inappropriate content includes spam, advertising, offensive statements, inaccurate information, foul language or unconstructive criticism of the college or any member of the college community.

THINK OF YOUR FUTURE

Make sure that your online activities do not interfere with your studies or job prospects. What you publish on the internet will be archived for years, and your posts (including photos, videos or links) may be reproduced or found by your current or future employer. If you are uncomfortable with something you have written — don't publish!

WHAT IS SOCIAL MEDIA?

Social Media has grown almost 30,000 per cent since 2008. Now with over 1 billion Facebook accounts, and 300 million Twitter accounts, social media is changing the way we study and interact with our friends and colleagues.

Social media includes blogs, social networks and websites such as *Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, Flickr, YouTube, Instagram, Pinterest, WordPress* etc.

Blogs are online journals where you can write about anything you want. Examples include *WordPress* and *Blogger*.

Social networks allow users to communicate and add friends, send messages and share content. Examples include *Facebook, MySpace* and *LinkedIn*.

Photo and video sharing allow you to upload photos or videos and comment on other users' submissions. Examples include *Instagram, Flickr, YouTube, and Pinterest*.

Wikis allow multiple users working on the same content to add articles and edit existing articles online at different times and places. Examples includes *Wikipedia*.

Microblogs allow you to broadcast short messages (140 characters). Examples include *Twitter*.

Find out more | DEECD's Cybersafety Guidelines
http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/schools.aspx