



Social Networking

Policy statement

Little Dragons recognise and acknowledge that social networking can play a valuable part in education, but equally misuse of these applications can cause great damage to the moral and well-being of children, parents and staff.

We endorse the rights of freedom of expression, however the use of social networks must pay due consideration to the rights of others. It is recommended any use of social media be in accordance with the following Code of Conduct:

Code of Conduct:

Social Networking applications must not be used to publish any comment which may result in actions for defamation, discriminations, breaches of copyright, data protection or other claims for damage. This includes material of an illegal, sexual or offensive nature that may bring Little Dragons into disrepute.

Social networking applications include, but are not limited to:

- Blogs
- Online discussion forums
- Collaborative Spaces (i.e. Facebook)
- Media sharing sites (i.e. YouTube)
- Micro blogging applications (i.e. Twitter)

Social networking applications must not be used for the promotion of personal financial interest, commercial ventures or personal campaigns.

Social Networking applications must not be used in an abusive or hateful manner. They must not be used for actions that would put Little Dragons representatives in breach of policies. Under no circumstance must they breach Little Dragons misconduct, equal opportunities or bullying and harassment policies.

Social networking applications must not make reference to any child, parent, and member of staff or Little Dragons activity / event unless prior permission has been obtained and agreed with management.

Procedures

Social Media within Little Dragons

- Children have very limited access to any Social Networking applications due to internet restrictions whilst at Little Dragons, use of the computer and tablets will be closely monitored and supervised at all times. We will endeavour to promote e-safety awareness to all children whilst at Little / Big Dragons through different methods i.e. Books.

Staff & Social Media

- Staff should be aware that if out-of-work activity reported on social networking applications causes potential embarrassment to Little Dragons or detrimentally affects the setting, then the setting is entitled to take disciplinary action.
- Staff must refrain from befriending parent/carers on any social networking applications; relationships should remain strictly professional at all times.
- Management reserve the right to check staff's social networking applications without notice.

Parents/Carer & Social Media

- Parents must refrain from befriending staff members on any social networking applications; relationships should remain strictly professional at all times.
- If parents are unhappy with anything in relation to the services Little Dragon's provide, we request they speak to a member of management to resolve this rather than expressing their views via social networking applications.

Children & Social Media

- We are aware that social media is becoming a more common element of children's daily lives but we would like to request that parent / carers monitor their children's social networking platforms closely to help protect them,
- Please can we ask that you talk to your child about not requesting to follow / add any staff members, if they do we will speak to you directly regarding this.

For more information on how to protect your child online please visit our website and click the E-Safety tab, if you require any further assistance or support we will be happy to assist in any way possible.

www.littledragonstelford.co.uk

Legal framework

- The Protection from Harassment Act 1997
- Malicious Communications Act 1998

- Criminal Justice and Public Order 1994
- Communications Act 2003

This policy was adopted by	Little Dragons Child Care Centre	<i>(name of provider)</i>
On	20.02.2017	<i>(date)</i>
Date to be reviewed	20.02.2018	<i>(date)</i>
Signed on behalf of the provider	<hr/>	
Name of signatory	<hr/>	
Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner)	<hr/>	