



SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

THE HAZARD – SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media refers to online tools which provide individual users and/or organisations with the ability to create and share content in online communities. Social media tools include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Social Networking Sites – such as Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Pinterest, LinkedIn
- Videos/Photos sharing Sites – such as YouTube, Vimeo, Flickr
- Micro-Blogging Sites – such as Twitter, Yammer, Tumblr
- Weblogs – corporate, personal or media blogs published through tools such as WordPress
- Forums & Discussion Boards
- Geo-spatial Tagging – such as Foursquare
- Online Multiplayer Gaming Platforms – such as Second Life
- Instant Messaging – such as, WhatsApp, We Chat, Facebook Messenger
- Vodcasting and Podcasting
- Any other websites or devices (including mobile phones) that enable individuals to publish or distribute their own views, blogs, comments, photos, videos etc.

GARDEN COLLEGE POLICY

Garden College recognises the importance of social media tools as a mechanism for both individuals and organisations to engage and share information. Students at the College enjoy the opportunities and rewards that being a member of the College community brings. It is subsequently expected that students will uphold the ethos of the College within and outside of the College and in all social media interactions.

It is our policy that students must:

- use social media in a respectful and responsible manner
- refrain from acting in such a way that brings the College into disrepute or in a way that harms members of the College community
- not insult or present offensive or inappropriate content
- not misrepresent the College or any member of the College community.

RATIONALE

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 College community.

SOCIAL MEDIA CODE OF CONDUCT

Students are expected to show respect to other, including members of the College community. Students are also expected to give due respect to the reputation and good name of the College.

When using social media, students are expected to ensure that they:

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- respect the rights and confidentiality of others
- do not impersonate or falsely represent another person
- do not use avatars or other means of hiding or misrepresenting their identity
- do not bully, intimidate, abuse, harass or threaten others
- do not make defamatory comments
- do not use offensive or threatening language or resort to personal abuse towards each other or members of the College community
- do not post content that is hateful, threatening, pornographic or incites violence against others
- do not post content (photos, videos) wearing school uniform
- do not harm the reputation and good standing of the College or those within its community
- do not film, photograph, or record members of the College community without express permission of the College or use film, photographs, or recordings without express permission of the other parties
- do not post images contrary to the teachings of Islam

BREACH OF POLICY

A failure to abide by the above expectations may constitute bullying. A breach of this policy will be considered by the school leadership and will be dealt with on a case by case basis. All reports of cyber bullying, hacking and other technology misuses will be investigated fully and may result in a notification to Police where the College is obliged to do so.

Sanctions for students may include, but are not limited to, the loss of computer privileges, detention, suspension, or expulsion from the College.

Students and parents/guardians must be aware that in certain circumstances where a crime has been committed, they may be subject to a criminal investigation by Police over which the College will have no control.

RESOURCES

- To learn more about the latest games, apps and social media, including how to protect your information and report inappropriate content, go to <https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-issues/esafety-guide>
- Beyond Blue provides information and support to help everyone in Australia achieve their best possible mental health <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>
- A student's wellbeing can change over time, and encompasses the health of the whole student – physical, mental, social and emotional <https://beyou.edu.au/resources/tools-and-guides/wellbeing-tools-for-students>