SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

The St Mary's Information and Communication Technology Usage Policy is relevant and foundational to this Social Media Policy and continues to apply.

This policy applies to all pupils using St Mary's School's social media accounts and to all St Mary's School pupils using personal social media accounts, whether for school related or personal purposes.

Social media platforms are public forums and there may be consequences including civil and/or criminal liability when posting personal views. Generally, users should be thoughtful and polite at all times and should not communicate information or content that may bring the school into disrepute.

Users must not:

- Post or like messages or material that could damage St Mary's School's image or reputation
- Create or transmit material that might be defamatory or incur liability for the school
- Post messages, status updates or links to material or content that is inappropriate (this includes information or content that encourages illegal, criminal activities or terrorism, or pornography, or which contains information or content that could reasonably offend on the basis of race, gender, sex, age, religious or political beliefs, disability, sexual orientation)
- Send or post offensive or harassing material
- Broadcast views on social, political, religious or other non-educational matters
- Interact with other schools or make comments about them, their pupils or members of staff in ways that may be interpreted as being offensive, disrespectful or rude
- Interact with examining bodies or make comments about them or their members of staff, in ways that may undermine the legitimacy of the examination process
- Post, upload, forward or link to spam, junk email or chain emails and messages

Users must respect and operate within copyright laws.