Acceptable use of St John’s School Catholic Primary School Facebook Page

Social media, such as Facebook, is integral to the lives of many parents. The benefits of social media are readily observed by an interested user.

With this in mind, St John’s Catholic Primary School has created a Facebook page for the following purposes:
- promote and enhance communication with our school and local community,
- promote school events within the community,
- promote our school and our educational offerings to the wider community,
- celebrate student achievement.

When interacting with the page, we ask our community to emphasise the positives and bring to everyone’s attention all of the things that make our school great.

St John’s Catholic Primary School expects that our families’ online behaviour demonstrates a Christ-centred respect for the dignity of each person and reflects the same standard of respect, consideration, responsibility and maturity that are required when communicating in person. Any interactions on the page must not use commentary deemed to be defamatory, obscene, proprietary or libellous.

Our school Facebook page name is – St John’s Catholic Primary School Walkerston.

This page is set up as Open – Not Interactive page, however certain restrictions have been applied to ensure content such as posts and photos are managed by the school administrators.

Facebook Code of Conduct – Question and Answer

Can I use Names in Posts?
While we encourage you to acknowledge someone’s great work or contribution to the school, we need to be aware of the various privacy acts in force. Therefore, please do not use full names of children at any time. It is not appropriate to directly use teachers, students or parent’s names in your comments when framed in any way that is critical or negative.

Unacceptable Uses
Ultimately, the usage mantra is - Respect Others. Online communications made on or using the school’s Facebook page will be monitored. Parents or other users of the page should NOT:
- Post or send inappropriate, hurtful or inaccurate comments about another person.
- Use disrespectful or inappropriate language.
- Harass or bully another person. If someone tells you to stop sending them messages, you must stop.
Will my children’s photos/likeness be published online?
All parents have indicated their consent preferences for web and social media publishing and these will apply for our Facebook page. If you are unsure of what your child’s current media consent authorisations are, please contact the school office and update as necessary. If your preferences change at any time it is parents responsibility to contact the school and make these changes/preferences known.

Can I raise issues on the sites?
Our Facebook page is to be a celebration of our community and we are happy to see people support various posts via a Facebook comment or a ‘like’. Issues involving students, parents or staff must not be raised on the Facebook page. We will not support interactions that incite or fuel negative sentiments and these will be addressed with the author by the school.

If you have a concern, please follow the normal grievance procedures of our school.

Can extended members of my family/social network ‘like’ the page?
Yes. As an open page, extended members of the community can like the school page. However, anybody who is a member of our page must observe the same practices and protocols expected of our parent community. These user guidelines are on our new school webpage.

How do I interact with the Facebook Page?
Users will be able to comment on the school’s posts and on comments by other users. Users will also be able to ‘like’ a post or comment by clicking on the ‘like’ button. Users will not be able to author a posting of their own or share items to the page.

Can I add my child or other underage Facebook users?
No. St John’s Catholic Primary School does not endorse children under the 13 years old threshold imposed by Facebook. However, we are supportive of children under parental supervision, viewing (yet not commenting on) our school’s Facebook page. We believe our communities conduct on our Facebook page will serve as a role model for our students as to how to behave in social media spaces.

Is there any Moderation and or Blocklisting?
Our school has set the profanity filter strength level to strong and has added additional words and names to the page’s blocklist. We reserve the right to remove users or to take down the entire site at any time.

What actions result from any breaches of this Code of Conduct?
St John’s Catholic Primary School reserves the right to ban any user from interacting with its Facebook page for breaches of the Code of Conduct. We can also remove comments that break the spirit of this agreement and follow up with phone calls.