

Facebook/Messenger Policy



RATIONALE

Officer Secondary College acknowledges that there is an increasing number of people using social networking sites. The widespread availability and use of social networking applications brings opportunities to understand, engage, and communicate with the community in new ways. Our intent is to grow our College and community's understanding of social media and to make connecting with our College more convenient.

AIMS

Foster our College and community's understanding of social media and to make connecting with our College more convenient for our families, including regular updating of the Officer Secondary College Website, distribution of information through the Officer Secondary College Learning Management System (Compass), and distribution of the College newsletter. Allow our community to keep up to date with activities through a medium which is preferred by many. Too seek input (through comments and likes) from our families. Build our College community by developing College spirit. Provide a positive focus for our College and bring everyone's attention to the things we do that make our College community great.

POLICY STATEMENT

This is a trial of using Facebook/Messenger as a communication device for our College Community. The College reserves the right to suspend or cease using Facebook/Messenger at the discretion of staff and our School Council. Where there are issues of a potentially serious criminal nature such as threats or inappropriate comments, the matter will be referred directly to the relevant governing body.

GUIDELINES FOR ACTION / IMPLEMENTATION

Content

Officer Secondary College believes the Facebook page/Messenger is another way to communicate information to, and celebrate our success, with members of the community. Information will be posted to the Facebook page/Messenger by authorised staff within the College only. Posts will contain information such as reminders of events, calendar dates and photos of special events, celebrations of student learning and achievement, and links to other important information that may be available periodically on the Officer Secondary College website. The Facebook page/Messenger will be used in conjunction with Compass and the Website for new information, and it is stated clearly that there is no requirement for parents, students or staff to Like or follow the Facebook page/Messenger.

Using Real Names

All users interacting with the Officer Secondary College Facebook page, by either liking or commenting on posts, must do so using a Facebook account that clearly identifies them by their real name. The list of users who have liked the Officer Secondary College page shall be kept private.

Contributing to the page

Officer Secondary College encourages families to share positive comments in relation to current events. We remind members of our community that there are many issues which are best dealt with privately, in consultation with relevant staff members. Issues involving students or staff must not be raised on our Facebook page. Users may refer to a specific person when you wish to acknowledge someone's great work or community contribution. Our philosophy is that our Facebook page will be used to build our college spirit, inform our community about our work, and connect people.

Interacting with Officer Secondary College's Facebook Page/Messenger

Initially, users will be able to comment on the College's postings 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 post of their own or load media such as video or photos.

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Minimum age requirement for Facebook membership

Officer Secondary College does not endorse children under the age of thirteen years of age (a threshold imposed by Facebook), having their own Facebook account. We encourage children, at parental discretion, to view our College's Facebook page/Messenger. We believe the conduct of our community members on our Facebook page/Messenger will serve as a role model for our students on how to behave in social mediaspaces.

Moderation

Officer Secondary College will actively monitor the College's Facebook page/Messenger, and will remove without warning any comment that does not follow the guidelines stated in this policy. Any user continuing to post comments outside the scope of this policy will be blocked from accessing the Facebook page/Messenger.

Privacy

Parental consent for the use of student names and photos will be obtained on an annual basis.

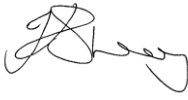
Facebook/Messenger Terms and Conditions and relevant legislation

Officer Secondary College's Facebook page operates under the Commonwealth Telecommunications Act and Facebook's Terms and Conditions.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed annually or more often if necessary due to changes in regulations or circumstance.

Office Use Only

Date Implemented	18/02/2019
Author	Officer Secondary College
Approved By	School Council
Approval Authority (Signature & Date)	Kerri Sherry 18/02/2019 
Date for Review	February 2020
Responsible for Review	School Council