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## CLASSROOM PROTOCOLS FOR USING SOCIAL MEDIA AS A TEACHING TOOL POLICY

Harnessing social media as an effective teaching tool provides enormous opportunity for collaborative and deep learning. Like any teaching strategy, however, the purpose must be meaningful, targeted and appropriate for the age and abilities of the participants.

Common platforms like YouTube, Twitter and Facebook are used by millions across the globe for constructive communication and exchange of ideas. The down side as we all know can be the virus of false information and cyber- bullying.

To ensure that social media at WSC is used in a safe and appropriate way under the authority or Ministerial Order 870. We, as professionals, ensure that certain protocols are in place:

- Teachers, not the student, determine how social media is used in the classroom
- Students understand that mobile technologies for learning are a privilege not a right
- The activities devised around social media must be age appropriate and within DET guidelines relating to content and classification
- Any breaches of College protocols should be reported to the IT Team and Student Managers immediately
- Students understand that responsible usage is an Absolute with no excuses
- Teachers are accountable for the learning activities that are set around social media. It should only be used to support learning sequences and study designs, not as an activity in itself.
- Teachers are responsible for maintaining their own privacy settings and using social media within DET guidelines.

For further information or clarification the link to the DET guidelines is:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/governance/Pages/socialmedia.aspx>

This policy was last updated in March 2018 and will be reviewed annually.