MERTON COURT SCHOOL

Appendix D

SOCIAL NETWORKING STATEMENT

To be reviewed December 2021 by: Headmaster, DSL	
Signed by the Headmaster/Proprietor:	
Shared with staff:	12/11/20
Shared with parents :	12/11/20
Put on the Website:	12/11/20

Staff and Parents of Merton Court School support good practice on Social Networking Sites

The Headmaster and staff have agreed an approach to the use of Social Networking sites that include the items below. We are now inviting parents to join us in setting a good example for our children.

All parents are invited to join staff in setting a good example for our children by:

- Demonstrating courtesy and respect for staff, other parents and pupils when comments are placed on social networking sites.
- Using appropriate language when discussing school.
- Addressing any issues or concerns regarding school, directly with the Headmaster, the Leadership Team or a member of staff rather than posting them on social media.

All parents are invited to join staff in setting a good example for our children by not:

- Using social network sites to make derogatory comments or posting photographs which could bring staff into disrepute, including making comments about pupils, parents, other staff members, the senior leadership team or our wider community.

- Posting photographs of other people's children on social network sites without their permission.

Our promise to school is:

- We will meet with you and use the school's policies and procedures to resolve concerns.
- We will work hard to resolve any concerns in the best interest of the whole community.
- We will act in the best interest of the whole community and honour our duty of care to our children.
- We will never conduct school business through social network sites.

The staff and proprietors of Merton Court School's agreement for using social networking sites.

All staff agree to:

- Demonstrate courtesy and respect for staff, parents and pupils when comments are placed on social networking sites.
- Ensure appropriate language is used in any comments placed on social network sites.
- Ensure that any comments and/or images could not be deemed as defamatory or in breach of any relevant legislation set out in school policies and handbooks.
- Review and adjust their privacy settings to give them appropriate level of privacy and confidentiality.

We agree to not:

- Use social network sites to make derogatory comments which could bring staff into disrepute, including making comments about pupils, parents, other staff members, senior leadership team, or the wider community.
- Use social networking sites to communicate with any pupil in the school.
- Post information or opinions about Merton Court School or pictures of school events.
- Use social networking sites within lesson times (for personal use).

Our promise to parents is:

- We will meet with them and use the school's policies and procedures to resolve concerns.
- We will work hard to resolve any concerns in the best interest of the whole community.
- We will act in the best interest of the whole community and honour our duty of care to our pupils.
- We will never conduct school business through social network sites.

Merton Court School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. It is our aim that all pupils fulfil their potential.

Cyberbullying

Merton Court School is committed to ensuring that all of its staff, parents/carers and pupils are treated with dignity and respect. Bullying and harassment of any kind will not be tolerated. Cyber-bullying methods could include text messages, emails, phone calls, instant messenger services, circulating photos or video clips or by posting comments on websites, blogs or in chat rooms.