



Social Media and Catholic Education Diocese of Wollongong

Information for parents and carers



CATHOLIC EDUCATION
DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG

Catholic Education Diocese of Wollongong (CEDoW) has released a *Social Media Policy* and a *Social Media Statement* that include *Social Media Standards* when using social media in relation to CEDoW or any of its school communities.

The *Social Media Policy* and *Social Media Statement* encourage the use of social media for open and productive dialogue to help create vibrant Catholic school communities of faith and learning.

It sets an expectation that users of social media respect the dignity of all people at all times. Users are also expected not to promote perspectives contrary to the Catholic faith, and not publicly criticise or bring into disrepute CEDoW or any of its school communities.

The *Social Media Policy* outlines the expectation that schools use social media in valid educational contexts to support student learning and wellbeing. It also outlines expectations for all in the school community when using social media in the context of CEDoW or any of its school communities.

Some resources to help you and your child to interact safely, responsibly and respectfully online can be found at:

Office of the eSafety Commissioner

www.esafety.gov.au

Alanna and Madeline Foundation

www.esmart.org.au

Bullying. No Way!

Online safety and online bullying

What does this mean for Parents/Carers?

- The *Social Media Standards* apply to all parents/carers when using social media in relation to CEDoW or any of its school communities.
- Parents/carers will be advised of official school social media sites that have been approved by the school. Any social media presence associated with the school must be approved by the Principal.
- Parents/carers are expected not to post content on social media of other students without the express consent of their parents/carers.
- Parents/carers are expected to notify the school of any inappropriate use or content on official school social media, or on any social media that may impact negatively on CEDoW and or any of its school communities.
- Inappropriate use of social media by parents/carers in relation to CEDoW or any of its school communities, will be addressed using the *CEDoW Social Media Standards Noncompliance (Parents/Carers) Procedure*.
- Each school year:
 - » every student and their parent/carer will be required to sign the *CEDoW Student Responsible Use of Technology Agreement*;
 - » parents/carers will be expected to sign and return the *Consent Form for use of Student's Image and/or Work*; &
 - » every student will be required to engage in the *CEDoW Digital Citizenship Program*.

If you would like more information please contact your school.

The Social Media Policy and Statement can be found at
www.dow.catholic.edu.au/socialmediapolicy