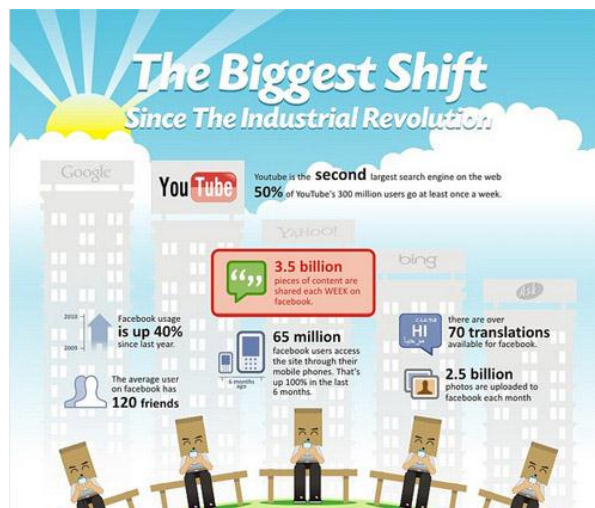


# Social Networking Policy for Parents





## **PURPOSE:**

1. Witney and District Synchronised Swimming Club (WDSSC) recognises that the use of networking sites is a growing phenomenon and is increasingly used as a communication tool of choice by young people and increasingly more adults. The use of social media provides many opportunities to improve the way we communicate reach out and interact with people and other groups.
2. Currently WDSSC has no plans to develop its own Facebook page or Twitter account.
3. This policy will provide guidelines for acceptable use with all on-line social networking communications as they relate to WDSSC.

## **TECHNOLOGIES:**

1. This policy includes (but is not limited to) the following technologies.
  - Personal Blogs
  - Twitter
  - Facebook
  - My Space
  - Bebo
  - You Tube
  - Message Boards
  - Flickr
  - Personal Websites



**ACCEPTABLE USE:** The following rules must be adhered to by all users:-

**SAFETY**

1. You or your child will **not** bully, intimidate, or harass any user.
2. You or your child will **not** post any photographs, videos or make comments that may be hurtful, untrue, upsetting or may be used by other people in a way that you did not intend or want.
3. You or your child will **not** post content that is hateful, threatening or pornographic; incites violence; or contains nudity or graphic or gratuitous violence.
4. You or your child will **not** post any information that contains alcohol-related or other mature content (including advertisements).

**PROTECTING OTHER PEOPLE'S RIGHTS**

1. We will respect other people's rights, and expect you to do the same.
2. You or your child will **not** write any derogatory or offensive comments in relation to WDSSC or any other swimming club.
3. You or your child will **not** post comments criticising or verbally abusing swimmers, coaches, officials or members of WDSSC or any other swimming club.
4. You or your child will **not** post photographs on Social Media sites relating to WDSSC as you may be in breach of the Club's Photography Policy.
5. You or your child will **not** post content or take any action on Social Media sites that infringes or violates someone else's rights or otherwise violates the law.



## SETTING UP ACCOUNTS

1. You will **not** provide any false information on Social networking sites, or create an account for anyone other than yourself without permission.

## CONSEQUENCES OF ACTIONS

2. Parents must be aware that posting messages, comments or any media on a social networking site that breaches the above requirements will breach the Parent's Code of Conduct.
3. Any individual found to be in breach of this Policy may face disciplinary action in accordance with the Club's Disciplinary, Grievance and Complaints Procedures.

## **SOCIAL NETWORKING SERVICES, SOCIAL MEDIA AND SPORT: GUIDELINES FOR SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

1. The Child Protection in Sport Unit Briefing Document "Social networking services, social media and sport: Guidelines for safeguarding children and young people" gives more in depth guidance on social networking sites. It can be accessed via the Child Protection in Sport Unit website (on the NSPCC websites).
2. A user guide for parents and swimmers for Twitter is available to view at [www.swimming.org](http://www.swimming.org).

## **WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS**

1. As a user of social networking sites, whether you are a child or an adult, you may at some time have a concern about what you are seeing or being told about by another user.
2. The nature of these concerns may vary but should these concerns be connected to L.C.S.C. Then please contact the Welfare Officer.
3. Alternatively, depending on the nature of your concerns, a list of agencies that



you can contact, anonymously if you wish, where you or your child can raise such concerns can be found below:-

- The Child Exploitation online Protection Unit (CEOP) at [www.ceop.gov.uk](http://www.ceop.gov.uk).
- If your child is under 18 they can use the “Your Chance to Talk” form on the “Child Power” section of the [www.swimming.org](http://www.swimming.org).
- [www.childnet.org.uk](http://www.childnet.org.uk) which is a NSPCC support service. Using this website, children can talk confidentially to NSPCC advisor’s online about any issues or problems they may be experiencing, using an application similar to Instant Messenger (I.M.). Stop It Now free phone 0808 1000 900.
- The local Police or Children's Services.
- The NSPCC helpline 0800 800 5000 or [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk) for adults concerned about the welfare or safety of a child.
- The Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) [www.iwf.org.uk](http://www.iwf.org.uk). The IWF was established by the internet industry to provide a UK internet hotline which can be anonymous for the public and IT professionals to report criminal online content in a secure and confidential way.