TATACHILLA LUTHERAN COLLEGE

POLICY NO: 2015/06   SOCIAL MEDIA - STUDENT

Rationale	The College acknowledges that social networking is used widely in the community for a variety of reasons. The College sets high expectations of both the staff and students, and we strive to provide a high standing with the community at large. It is for these reasons we expect students to abide with the following recommendations regarding commentary on social media. The Policy acknowledges the need for acceptable behaviour on social networks.
Definition	**School Policies Regarding Social Networks**

Age Restrictions:
Tatachilla Lutheran College acknowledges that many social network sites require members to be at least 13 years of age. We encourage students to adhere to the policies of these sites.

Individual Accountability:
Tatachilla Lutheran College students are personally responsible for the content that they post, share and respond to online. When posting online, all information is considered representative of your views and opinions and not those of Tatachilla Lutheran College.

Confidential Information:
Online postings and conversations are not private. Do not share confidential information, internal Collegediscussions or specific information about other students, parents or staff.

College Logos:
The use of Tatachilla Lutheran College logos or images on your personal social networking sites is prohibited. Positing photographs of yourself or other students of the College in your College uniform is greatly discouraged and the College recommends careful consideration is given prior to posting any such picture that displays students wearing the uniform with the logo. If such photographs are posted, it is imperative that both those in the picture and the College are displayed in a manner that is consistent with the wider ethos of the College. If you wish to promote a specific Tatachilla Lutheran College activity, event or posting, you may do so only by a means of a link to the official Tatachilla Lutheran College Facebook or Twitter account.

Student-Staff Relations:
Inviting staff members to join your social network is strongly discouraged. Please respect the privacy of staff members and their preferences regarding their social networks.

Privacy:
When posting, even on the strictest settings, students should act on the assumption that all postings are in the public domain. In microblogging (Twitter etc.), comments made using such media are not protected by privacy settings. To this regard all comments posted on any form of social media should be considered available for public viewing and open to public response. It is therefore recommended that no direct or indirect comments be made that could reflect negatively on the College.

Profiles:
Ensure your profile and related content is consistent with how you wish to present yourself with parents, peers and the wider community.

Responding to commentary on Social Media
Staff, parents and students reflect a diverse set of customs, values and points of view. Be respectful of the opinions of others in your posts or comments. Under no circumstance should offensive comments be made about students, parents or staff, or the College.

Inappropriate Content:
Do not use ethnic slurs, innuendos or any other inappropriate content. Do not use profane or threatening language. If you come across inappropriate material that makes you feel uncomfortable, or is not respectful, tell your parents or a teacher right away.

Public Information and Responsibility:
Social media venues are public and information can be shared beyond your control. Be conscious of what you post online, as you will leave a long-lasting impression on many different audiences. Do not post anything you wouldn't want peers, parents, teachers, or a future employer to see. Do not post or link anything (photos, videos, web pages, audio files, forums, groups, fan pages etc.) to your social networking sites that you wouldn't want peers, parents, teachers, admissions officers or future employers to access.

Safety:
Never give out personal information, including, but not limited to, last names, phone numbers, addresses or exact birthdates. Do not share your password with anyone besides your parents. Only accept social network invitations from people you know. If you feel unsafe online, tell your parents or a trusted adult right away.

Inappropriate Behaviour:
All the recommendations above are presented to assist and guide students with appropriate use and behaviour when utilising social media, posting information and responding to online forums. It is therefore advised that students follow the recommendations both on and off campus when utilising social media.

The College will work in partnership with parents to monitor any behaviour which negatively affects other students and/or reflects poorly on the College. If such negative behaviour is identified the relevant policy and/or external agencies will be engaged.