

200.40.45

Social Media Policy

adopted 7/19

1. PURPOSE

This policy has been created to protect Island Montessori Schools' (IMS) staff, students, and parents from the many issues that can arise as a result of posting on social networking sites. It also assures that information disclosed by IMS and its employees is appropriate, accurate, and relevant to all aspects of the Island Montessori School system.

2. SCOPE

This social media policy applies to all IMS students and their parents and guardians. This policy covers all social media and media platforms (e.g., social networks, blogs, podcasts, photo sharing, wikis, online forums, and video sharing).

3. PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

- Parents and guardians are encouraged to raise questions, concerns, and complaints directly with the school (teacher or staff, Head of School, or board of directors) rather than posting them on social media – whether on their personal pages, the school's pages, or in closed groups (e.g. groups set up for school parents to communicate with each other).
- Parents and guardians should not post anything malicious about the school or any member of the school community on social media.
- Use good judgement when posting photos and videos on your personal social media accounts that include other children at IMS.

4. CYBERBULLYING

Cyberbullying is conduct that disrupts both a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate its students in a safe environment. Any electronic communication that deliberately threatens, harasses, and/or intimidates an individual or group of individuals is considered cyberbullying.

IMS prohibits acts of cyberbullying by IMS students through the use of any IMS owned, operated, and supervised technologies. Any student or staff member that believes he/she has or is being subjected to cyberbullying, as well as any person who has reason to believe a student or staff member is being subjected to or has been subjected to cyberbullying shall immediately make a report to the Head of School or designee.

The Head of School or designee may report allegations of cyberbullying to law enforcement authorities.

IMS has a zero tolerance against cyberbullying and each reported instance will be handled in accordance with local and state rules, policies and guidelines.