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# Kingsway College

## Social Media Policy

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### Social Networking Web Sites

As public weblogs (blogs) such as Twitter.com and Facebook.com have become widely popular, many schools – both public and private – have formulated policies and are addressing this issue. The line between what is public and private information has become blurred.

What about freedom of speech? While we support freedom of expression and speech, we want to encourage our students to be responsible in their use of these public venues. Everything that a student places becomes a public, permanent record. While comments might be made in jest, they are out there for the whole world to see – employers, parents, school staff members, fellow students, predators, etc. Freedom of speech has never been absolute, and people may be held accountable for statements they make.

KC, like many other schools across the country, feel that these sites pose some problems for our students and school family. Some of these problems include: the risk of online predators viewing and using student information – including names, addresses, ages, photos, phone numbers, and other information; the use of time; inappropriate postings; libelous statements; anti-Christian values; and hurtful and demeaning comments that negatively impact our school.

KC Policy in our role of parents for approximately 55% of our students, we will take the following approach:

- We will block access to these sites through our school network. We will also work to block others like them in the future as we become aware of them.
- We will also work to educate our students and parents about the potential dangers of these sites. We want our students to be very careful before they post things that might hurt themselves or others.
- While we do not actively monitor these sites, when we are made aware of student postings, students may be held accountable for their actions. We would not allow flyers to be posted freely around school which were hateful, threatening, depicted students in scantily clad or immoral activities, or showed students involved in illegal behavior. Likewise, we will compare the current electronic media postings to flyers or publicly posted notes.

**By accepting the Chromebook (computer, case, EMR pen and charger) that is assigned to me, I agree to all statements above and agree to follow all rules per this policy. Breaking any of these rules will result in disciplinary action.**