

**BOLNEY C.E.P. SCHOOL**

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**Acting Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Harvey**

 Friday, 04 October 2019

Dear Parents,

**for Primary Schools**

Twitter is a social networking and microblogging service that allows you to send out short messages called tweets. Tweets are limited to 140 characters but can also contain media like photos or videos.

A number of schools are using class or school Twitter accounts to share information with parents.

Twitter is not designed to be a tool for children under 13 so it isn’t appropriate for young learners to be using it directly with a personal account. Their Privacy Policy states that:

***‘Our services are not directed to persons under 13. If you become aware that your child has provided us with personal information without your consent, please contact us at*** ***privacy@twitter.com*** ***. We do not knowingly collect personal information from children under 13. If we become aware that a child under 13 has provided us with personal information, we take steps to remove such information and terminate th child’s account.***

**Why do you want to use Twitter?**

We aim to use it in the future for:

* **Promoting**: A Twitter account can be a useful way of promoting school activities and useful information, and is quick and easy to set up.
* **Engaging**: Go to where your parents are: many parents rarely check the school website, but engage Twitter regularly – it’s a good way of linking to information you want them to be aware of.
* **Communicating**: twitter can allow you to communicate with other schools and public figures and take learning beyond the four walls of the classroom.

We have created a Twitter Usage Policy which will be added to our current E-Safety Policy. You will find a copy of this overleaf.

Please let me know if you are not happy about your child appearing on our Twitter feed.

You will need to sign up or login to Twitter and search for BolneyCEPrimary, and request to follow us. It will then be down to the school admin to accept your request.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Kenny

Headteacher



**BOLNEY C.E.P. SCHOOL**

 **Twitter Usage Policy**

 **September 2015**

**Aims of Using Twitter:**

To quickly share and celebrate children’s achievements, successes and school updates.

To demonstrate safe responsible use of social media.

To encourage the use of 21st Century technology.

* The school Twitter account will be ran from school devices by school staff.
* The school Twitter account will be a Private account and Parents will be invited to join. School staff will monitor the followers and block any who appear to not be school focused.
* The school Twitter account will only tweet between the hours of 8am and 6pm between Monday and Friday. The only time tweets outside of this time are for school events (e.g. football matches, residential trips, performances) or o share urgent school news (e.g. Closure due to adverse weather).
* The school Twitter account will only follow educationally linked accounts. No personal accounts, unless they are educationally linked, will be followed. For example a children’s author.
* The school Twitter account will not reply to any ‘replies’ on Twitter. This is not the platform to discuss or debate school related issues.
* The school Twitter account will only use children’s first names when referencing children.
* The school Twitter account will use Twitter to share positive messages about the school.
* The school Twitter account will be posting photographs that contain children’s faces in order to best share their work and learning. We will use the information already gained for photographic permission, unless parents state otherwise. First names only may appear alongside photos.
* The school will change the Twitter account password on a termly basis.
* Individually targeted content will not be posted e.g. ‘Well done Julie a better lesson today’. Tweets to a year group or class along the lines of ‘don’t forget the….’ are acceptable.
* Use of the @twittername of others is to be avoided. For example ‘excited about @dexnott speaking to us’.
* By endorsing Twitter we may be encouraging children to use Twitter so reinforce e-safety rules such as ‘Never tweet anything that would be potentially upsetting; make sure you know how to report to anything you find that disturbs you; be careful who you talk to they may not be all they appear; never meet anyone from twitter world without telling your parents’ etc.
* Twitters own safety rules can be read on <https://support.twitter.com/groups/33-report-abuse-or-policy-violations#topic_166>