

## Safeguarding Children

### Social Networking and the Internet

#### *Policy statement*

Policy on the personal use by Staff/Committee of Social Networking and Other third party websites.

#### **Introduction**

The Internet provides a number of benefits in which staff and Committee members may wish to participate. However, when someone is identified with Wellow Under Fives Pre-school or discusses their work, they are expected to behave appropriately when on the Internet.

The Internet is a fast moving technology and it is impossible to cover all circumstances. However, the principles set out in this document should always be followed. If in any doubt then details should be discussed with the Manager.

The intention of this policy is not to stop staff from conducting legitimate activities on the Internet, but serves to flag-up those areas in which conflicts can arise.

#### *EYFS key themes and commitments*

A Unique Child	Positive Relationships	Enabling Environments	Learning and Development
1.2 Inclusive practice	2.1 Respecting each other 2.2 Parents as partners	3.2 Supporting every child 3.4 The wider context	

This Policy was adopted at a meeting of Wellow Under Fives Preschool

Held On	6 <sup>th</sup> December 2011
Date to be reviewed	December 2012
Signed on behalf of the management committee	
Name of signatory	Rob Blakemore
Role of signatory	Chairperson

## **Procedures**

- Staff/Committee members and volunteers are in a professional position and are responsible for the care and education for Early Years children. Therefore they:
  - Must not engage in any activities which may harm the welfare of children or adults in connection with the setting.
  - Must not engage in activities on the Internet which might bring Wellow Under Fives Pre-school or its associated employees/Committee members into disrepute.

## **Social Networking Sites**

- Social networking sites provide a great way for people to maintain contact with friends. However, through the open nature of such sites, it is also possible for third parties (including parents) to access this information.
- Social networking sites allow photographs, videos and comments to be shared with thousands of other users. However, it is not appropriate to share work-related information whether written or pictorial in this way.
- Under no circumstance should comments be made about Wellow Under Fives Preschool, its staff, children, committee members or volunteers on the Internet.
- Staff members, committee members, parents , relatives and friends must respect the privacy and the feelings of others.
- If a staff/committee member believes something has been written which gives rise to concerns within this, or any other, policy this must be discussed with the Pre-school Manager.
- Failure to adhere to this policy may result in disciplinary action.