

Considerations on using social networking sites

Social networking sites such as Facebook are widely used and enjoyed by the majority of parents and older children. Unfortunately sometimes these sites are used to publicly discuss matters which may include personal disagreements between pupils at the school, or for parents to vent frustration about school matters.

Comments made on social networking sites about an individual can be considered to be 'defamatory' and lead to the onset of legal action being taken against those who made them. It is important to remind users of social networking sites to consider this before posting comments.

Social networking sites are not as 'private' as users are led to believe. Careless or inconsiderate use of these sites can cause unnecessary distress to the individuals concerned, or have an adverse impact on the school in general, or both. This is something that the school ideally wishes to avoid happening firstly.

The staff at St John Fisher Catholic College work hard to create a safe and happy environment for its staff and pupils, and need all stakeholders in the school community to support this work.