



We are aware that many of our pupils have a Facebook account. We believe it necessary to issue advice on this, as there is a rising number of incidents occurring, which are impacting on staff, parents and pupils.

Please note that staff have been advised that they are not to accept friend requests from parents or pupils.

How old must my child be to have an account?

Facebook's terms and conditions clearly state that you have to be **13** to have an account. If you are **younger** than this, you can only join by **falsifying** your date of birth, which is a **direct breach of the terms and conditions**. This applies to all children currently at Moorlands.

My child does have a Facebook account which I know about.....

Any family's use of their own computer is essentially a private matter. However, if any child's use of Facebook or other social networking sites impacts negatively on any other pupil or member of staff, then **we will take very serious and immediate action.**

This will involve the police and city's legal department which may lead to civil or criminal action against you or your child. **In such cases, we will work with Facebook to close down accounts of any child under the age of 13.**

If you have allowed your child to join Facebook in breach of their terms and conditions, this means you are taking full responsibility for their account and everything they are doing with it.

We advise that:

- You look regularly at your child's account including the **friends they are making and what they are writing.**
- You add the click CEOP page to your child's profile. This is the Children Exploitation and Online Protection Centre and messages about **Internet Safety** will appear on their Facebook wall.
- If you are on Facebook, be friends with your child- **whether they like it or not**- enabling you to monitor activity.
- **You know** their log on details and password and have not changed them.
- You check that they do not have a **second, alternative profile** which you don't know about.
- Your computer is in a public place in the house.

I don't know if my child has a Facebook account.....

This is potentially very risky.



This means your child may have joined without your knowledge at a friend's house or on your computer- or on their mobile phone- **without you knowing. They cannot join or access Facebook at school.**

This means you don't know who your child is talking to and who they may be sharing information with. If you are unsure about your child's use of Social sites such as Facebook or the use of the Internet generally, **please use the ThinkUKnow website- www.thinkuknow.co.uk** There is a range of activities you can look at with your child, including **appropriate behaviour and staying safe online.**

Please contact us should you have any concerns or need any more information.