



ST. AUGUSTINE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Social Media Policy Parent & Student Acknowledgment Form

The Social Media Policy of St. Augustine Prep can also be found in the student handbook under Social Networking Policy.

Social Networking, such as Facebook, Twitter, etc., provides students with instant nonverbal communication access. The primary responsibility of monitoring appropriate use of this technology rests with the student's parent or guardian. Inappropriate postings (comments, pictures, etc.), on any social networking site, are in opposition of the overall mission of St. Augustine Prep. The school will become involved if such behavior causes a disruption in the daily life of the school. Individuals directly or indirectly involved in such action may be subject to disciplinary action including, but not limited to: detention, suspension, or expulsion.

The term **social media** is defined as the use of web based and mobile technologies to facilitate the communication and sharing of information or create virtual communities. Some examples of social media include Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Snap Chat, and several more. Social media outlets have become a significant means of communicating with friends, family, classmates, and for that matter, the entire world. The impact of social media has been powerful, incredible, and ubiquitous in recent years. Social media provides exciting new channels for students to share their knowledge, creativity, and ability to connect with others who share their interests. Students must understand however, that they need to follow behavioral standards online as they would in real life. The rules and regulations which guide the conduct of students on campus also apply to what one may contribute online.

General Rules and Best Practices for Posting:

- a. **Be respectful:** Not everyone shares the same beliefs or opinions. Consider the feelings of others.
- b. **Be accurate:** Make sure you have all the necessary and correct information before you post.
- c. **Be confidential:** Do not post confidential information about St. Augustine Preparatory School, students, faculty members, staff, or alumni.
- d. **Be authentic:** Be honest about your identity.
- e. **Take the high ground:** Do not be the type of individual who is constantly on the attack. Keep your personal dignity as your highest priority.
- f. **Remember your audience:** Make sure that your post will not harm, alienate, or provoke the public at large.
- g. **Remember liability:** You are legally liable for what you post on your own site or on the site of others.
- h. **Think Twice:** Before you post, make sure that what you want to convey is in line with common decency and will be for your benefit or the good of others. Remember that privacy does not exist in the world of social media. College admissions personnel often review the social media sites of students who are applying to their institution.
- i. **Be a valued contributor:** Too many people use the internet as a means to debase and harm others. Please use it as a conduit of good will and friendship.

Students who use social media outlets or the internet as a tool to cause angst or harm to others will be liable for disciplinary action. Therefore, you are to treat others as you would expect to be treated. We encourage you to use social media outlets in a manner that reflects the ideals of a *Christian Gentleman*.

Avoid the Following- This list is not exhaustive.

1. Posting items of a derogatory, slanderous, defamatory, or hostile nature toward the school, faculty, staff, students, or alumni.
2. Posting items with sexual content or lewdness.
3. Posting threats toward any person or member(s) of the community.
4. Posting items exhibiting or advocating the use of drugs or alcohol.
5. Posting the pictures/caricatures of others without their express consent.
6. Posting the St. Augustine Prep School logos.
7. Posting any copyrighted material without proper acknowledgement.
8. Posting phone numbers, email addresses, or other confidential information of students, faculty, staff, or any other person other than yourself.
9. Posting comments under multiple names or using another person's name.
10. Posting any type of information that may be considered harassment or any criminal offense in the State of New Jersey or other applicable jurisdiction.

This form must be signed by the student and parent/guardian.

Print Student Name _____ Class _____

Student: I have read and understand the St. Augustine Preparatory School's Technology User Agreement. I understand that if I fail to comply with any of this policy or agreement, my access to technology (including electronic devices and network resources) may be suspended, and I may be subject to disciplinary consequences including expulsion.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: As a parent/guardian of the student above, I affirm that I have read and understand that my child is expected to abide by St. Augustine Preparatory School's Technology User Agreement, and any other policies enumerated in the Student Handbook. I hereby give permission and consent for my child to use a school provided e-mail account, school technology, Chromebook, the Internet, and other resources prescribed by an instructor for educational purposes. I take full responsibility for supervising my child's use of technology, the internet, social media,

and school equipment, in particular, when he is not at school. I understand that if my child fails to comply with any of the aforementioned policies, his access to technology (including electronic devices and network resources) may be suspended, and he may be subject to disciplinary consequences including expulsion.

Note: St. Augustine Preparatory School uses G Suite for Education, GoGuardian, and other software in compliance with the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) and the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____