

Future Stars Coaching

Social Media Policy

Future Stars Coaching recognises that many staff enjoy networking with friends and family via social media. However we have to balance this against our duty to maintain the confidentiality of children and parents attending our Club, as well as ensuring that our good reputation is upheld. Staff must remember that they are ambassadors for our Club both within and outside of working hours and are expected to conduct themselves accordingly when using social media sites. Any interactions with children online must align with our Safeguarding Policy to ensure their protection and well-being.

This policy covers (but is not limited to) social media platforms such as:

- Twitter
- Facebook
- YouTube
- Tumblr
- Instagram
- Clubhouse
- TikTok
- Personal blogs and websites
- Comments posted on third party blogs or websites
- Online forums

Social media rules

We will ensure complete compliance with the **Data Protection Act 2018** and **GDPR** regulations.

When using social media sites, staff must not:

- Post or discuss anything that could damage our Club's reputation.
- Post anything that could offend other members of staff, parents or children using our Club.
- Publish any photographs or materials that could identify the children or our Club.
- Accept invitations from parents to connect via social media (eg friend requests on Facebook) unless they already know the parent in a private capacity.
- Discuss with parents any issues relating to their child or our Club. Instead invite the parent to raise the issue when they are next at the Club, or to contact the Manager if the matter is more urgent.
- Staff are encouraged to positively represent Future Stars Coaching by sharing successes and achievements on their personal social media accounts, provided they do not disclose personal information or identities about children or staff.

Any member of staff who posts content or comments that breach confidentiality or which could harm the reputation of our Club or other staff members, or who publishes photographs of the setting or children, will face disciplinary action in line with our **Staff Disciplinary policy**.

General cautions for using social media

When using social media in any context it is wise to bear in mind the following points:

- No information published via the internet is ever totally secure; if you don't want information to become public, do not post it online.

- Once an image or information is in the public domain, it is potentially there forever – Google never forgets!
- Breach of this policy may result in disciplinary action, which could include dismissal, depending on the severity of the breach.

Related policies

See also: **Smart Technology policy, Data Protection policy, Staff Disciplinary policy, Safeguarding policy.**