New Zealand Teachers Council
Te Pouherenga Kaiako o Aotearoa

Social Media and ECE

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New Zealand Teachers Council

The professional body for all registered teachers working in early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary and other teaching situations.

Established under the Education Standards Act 2001 and replaced the Teacher Registration Board on 1 February 2002.

In the process of being disestablished and a new body Education Council of Aotearoa New Zealand will be formed.
Purpose

Provide professional leadership.

Encourage best teaching practice.

Determine standards for teacher registration.
Approve and monitor teacher education programmes.

Identify research priorities.
Promote the code of ethics for the profession.

Maintain register of teachers.
Exercise disciplinary functions.
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Code of Ethics for Registered Teachers 2004

4 fundamental principles

- Autonomy – to treat people with rights that are to be honoured and defended
- Justice – to share power and prevent the abuse of power
- Responsible care – to do good and minimise harm to others
- Truth – to be honest with others and self

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Registered Teacher Criteria
Ngā Paearu mō ngā Pouako Kua Rēhitatia

Overarching Statements:

4. In Aotearoa New Zealand, the Code of Ethics / Ngā Tikanga Matatika commits registered teachers to the highest standards of professional service in promoting the learning of those they teach.
Developed specifically to address what had already emerged as a growing risk area for teachers at all levels.

Recognised the need for teachers to think carefully about appropriate use of social media in their working lives.

The main message is that a teacher needs to think very carefully about their digital footprint, potential consequences, and the value of the communication before sharing information with students and parents and whanau.

Social media website
http://www.teachersandsocialmedia.co.nz/
What’s there

- **guidelines** to help teachers use social media safely and ethically
- **animated** scenarios showing ethical dilemmas
- **presentation** frameworks to help teachers unpack the issues and examine social media use in their own school/centre
- positive **case studies** from teachers who have used social media successfully
- **links** to other sites with useful information about social media including concepts such as digital citizenship, privacy and copyright
- a social media **map**, describing different platforms and the characteristics of social media.
Key messages

Talk to parents/guardians about why and how you are using social media for your teaching.

Keep parents/guardians updated and involved in what’s being shared on blogs and on-line spaces created for teaching and learning.

Where appropriate, seek permission from learners and parents/guardians before sharing information such as student work, learning stories or pictures of learners.
Social media provides a great opportunity to collaborate and communicate with parents and family.

Social media can provide a window into a centre so that ideas and information can be shared and exchanged all the time.

Social media map and characteristics
Commitment to parents / guardians, family / whānau

• Do you think Mrs Sim did anything wrong here?

• What are the pros and cons of having a blog in early childhood centres or schools?

• Is a consent form the best way to engage with parents/guardians and whānau?

• Who can access Mrs Sim’s blog?

• Why is Sina unhappy?
Commitment to society

• Can Daisy know exactly who has seen the photos?
• What should she do next?
• How can she prevent a similar situation from happening again?
• How do you think Daisy would be perceived by
  -- A parent?
  - A member of the community?
  - Another teacher?
• Do you think employers acted ethically/professionally by accessing these images in deciding if she was a suitable teacher?
This all leads to:

The development of a professional teacher.

Better learning for children/students.

Useful links:
http://www.teacherscouncil.co.nz/content/code-ethics-registered-teachers
http://www.teachersandsocialmedia.co.nz/
http://www.teachersandsocialmedia.co.nz/resources
http://www.teacherscouncil.govt.nz/rtc