SOCIAL MEDIA

What is social media for?

Social media allows people to connect: through accessing news, sharing photos and videos, reacting to posts, and chatting with friends anytime! Some examples of social networks are:

- **Facebook** - Popular social media platform where users can share thoughts, content, and messages with other members
- **Twitter** - Service allowing users to share short messages
- **Instagram** - Photo and video-sharing service
- **Youtube** - Video-sharing service

Getting Started

- To join any social network, you first need to create a profile
- This includes your basic information, e.g. profile user name, where you're from, and your interests
- You can make your personal account private or public. When your profile is "private", nobody has access to any of your personal details unless you approve and add them as a 'friend'.

Joining Facebook

1. Go to www.facebook.com and click 'Create New Account'.
2. Fill out the form with your full name, current status, email address, password and birthday. Click the "Sign up" button once the form is completed.

3. Wait for a confirmation email from Facebook. When you get the email, click on the link provided to verify your registration.

4. You can invite people you know to become your "friend" via a friend request. Once the request is accepted, you become friends on Facebook. This allows you to view each other's profiles, content, and send direct messages.

Using Facebook

- **Home** - The main 'space' - you can see what Friends post here. Anything you post on your Facebook page can be seen by your Friends. They can also Share, Like, or Comment on your post.
- **Comment** - Members comment on posts by clicking on the 'Comment' button
- **Like** - People like posts by clicking the ''thumbs up' button.
- **Tabs** - On a group's Facebook page, you can click on different tabs to look at more information about them, e.g. photos posted, upcoming events, and discussions.

Joining Twitter

1. Go to www.twitter.com and click "Sign Up".
2. Create your account by entering your name, email address, password and birthday. Click the "Sign up" button once your credentials are filled.
5. Wait for a confirmation email from Twitter to verify your identity.
6. Now you can post updates (tweets) – once tweets are posted: it is displayed on your profile page, and anyone who 'follows' you on Twitter will receive the message on their homepage. Vice versa, when you 'follow' someone on Twitter, every time they 'tweet', you will receive it.

Using Twitter

- Users interact with one another via short messages, known as Tweets.
- Users can share photos and videos with their followers, and they can Like, Comment on and 're-tweet' posts from other users. It is also a useful platform to receive news alerts.

Joining Instagram

1. Go to www.instagram.com or download the app.
2. Once the app is installed or the website is opened, create a new account by tapping 'Sign Up' , then enter your email address and tap 'Next'. You may need to confirm your registration.
3. Create a username and password then fill out your profile info.

Using Instagram

- Users share content with people who Follow them. To Follow other users, tap the 'Follow' button on that user's Instagram account.
- You can tap the Chats tab in the top right corner to view all your conversations. To message, enter or select a recipient, then type your text, and tap the paper airplane icon to send it. You can also video call by clicking the phone icon in the top right-hand corner.

Using Youtube

- Users upload videos that can be shared with anyone around the world with access to the internet. Unlike other social media, it doesn't require you to create an account to view content on its platform.

- YouTube contains a wide variety of videos. Production companies, businesses, and individual users can set up what are known as 'channels', and these list videos posted to YouTube by that specific user
- Videos can be searched up on Youtube using the 'Search Bar' on the top and the videos are free to watch. You can also subscribe to a channel by clicking the 'Subscribe' button. This means any new videos the channel publishes will show up in your notifications and feed.

Safety Tips

1. **Keep your information private** - Limit how much personal information you post and adjust your privacy settings.
2. **Posting away from home** - Only send photos to trusted friends or family whilst you are away, or wait until you are back home before posting.
3. **Beware of scams and harassment** - Social media in particular, is susceptible to scams and online harassment. If you have been scammed or harassed, report it immediately to the social media platform, any institution affected, and if necessary, to the police.