



St Aloysius PS & NU

Seesaw Policy

In St Aloysius Primary School and Nursery Unit, we are constantly looking to improve home communication. With the Seesaw app, you can celebrate your children's learning and share in joyous occasions as well as communicate important class messages.

We have been developing the use of SEESAW as form of communication over recent times and to date it has proven to be highly effective and an environmentally friendly way to create a snap-shot of your children's learning, as well as deliver important messages to our parents.

Aims:

- To allow children to share their learning experiences
- To celebrate achievement and progress
- Inspire the pupils to try their best by providing an audience for their work beyond the classroom
- To deliver important messages and reminders in a class-specific manner
- To facilitate homework to be set and returned to the teacher. *This is particularly important with Covid-19 restrictions whereby books to/from school is actively discouraged.*
- To develop a meaningful, home-school connection so that parents and carers can better support their child's school experience.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

By joining the app, you have therefore consented to allowing the app to create an account in your child's name. All work, photographic evidence of their work, videos or voice recordings will then link with their account. Seesaw only uses this information to provide the service and doesn't advertise in Seesaw, create profiles of students, or share or sell your child's personal information or journal content.

Once consent has been received by a parent the teacher will then set up their Seesaw account for their class and follow the guidelines and instructions given by the school

Seesaw is an app and a form of social media. The school recognises the numerous benefits and opportunities which a social media presence offers. However, there are some risks associated with social media use, especially around the issues of safeguarding, bullying and personal reputation. The guidelines below aim to encourage the safe and proper use of Seesaw by parents.

SEESAW GUIDELINES

- All forms of communication should be **kept professional** at all times
- Teachers will reply **within reason** to messages during non- teaching time in school

- Any message of high priority should be delivered via phone via the school secretary/Coreen, or school email.
- No message will be responded to **after school working hours**
- The app is not platform for forgotten homework requests as it is not possible to address this online
- **No pupil** should be connecting to the SEESAW app via their parent's platform
- Any **sensitive issues** regarding your child should be communicated via phone and should not be communicated via SEESAW
- *Teachers will not respond to messages that are deemed inappropriate and will be forwarded to Senior Leadership Team for review.*
- Parents will not post derogatory, defamatory, offensive, harassing or discriminatory content
- Seesaw is not a suitable forum for queries, concerns or complaints to be shared with staff. This should be done via the official school email
- If a conversation turns and becomes offensive or unacceptable, staff will block, report or delete other users or their comments/posts and will inform the principal who will take appropriate action, including informing the Board of Governors.
- If a parent feels that a member of staff has acted inappropriately in their use of the apps then they should contact the principal to discuss their concerns.
- As part of active social media engagement, it is considered good practice to pro-actively monitor the use of Seesaw.

Other policies:

Our Seesaw policy compliments the following policies: Communications Policy, Social Media Policy, Safeguarding Policy

It is not a replacement for the regular school newsletters and website. Parents are advised to consult the school website for information, and if necessary, the contact the principal through the school office.

Monitoring:

- Activity on the app is monitored. Should the app be used inappropriately, the account will be put 'on hold'.
- We encourage all parents to be proactive in the use of Seesaw. Should a parent not engage, the principal will communicate with them directly to seek a resolution.
- *With Covid-19 restrictions, Seesaw will be particularly important as books cannot go to and from school. Seesaw will be use to set and submit homework. This will be monitored very closely. Should a parent not engage, the principal will communicate with them directly to seek a resolution.*

Review:

The principal and Senior Leadership Team, will constantly monitor and review the value of the app to school communication. Guidelines for use will also be kept under review and amended as required. The Board of Governors oversee school communication and are advised of issues and recommendations.

Review Date: Sept 2023