



Harmful Communications and Interactions Policy

Rationale

Raglan Area School welcomes robust feedback and seeks to have ongoing consultation and conversations with our community. As well as this student and staff health and well-being is a primary responsibility and paramount in our School. Raglan Area School will not tolerate communications that cause harm to others for example, posts on social media, comments and / or emails or text messages that cause or are likely to cause serious emotional distress which breach the communication principles outlined in the Harmful Digital Communications Act.

Policy Statement

To ensure the health and well-being of all staff and students of Raglan Area School are made clear to our community and those that experience any serious emotional distress caused as a result of harmful communications are given the support and access to a complaints process.

Policy Guidelines

Procedure for Immediate Response Actions

This policy is visible on our school website - so the Raglan Area School community is aware of what will happen when boundaries are crossed.

- On Raglan Area School social media platforms, we will proactively turn comments off on posts that may attract abusive comments. Comments may be deleted, and accounts blocked or referred under the [Harmful Digital Communications \(Link\)](#) legislation.
- For emails, messages and other communications, people may receive a warning, be blocked, or referred to [Netsafe \(Link\)](#) or the police.

Raglan Area School Expectations

1. Comments are post-moderated. This means they are not checked or edited by Raglan Area School before they appear on our communication platforms, and consequently places the onus on the user to be mature, considered, caring and reasonable in what is written.
2. We will delete posts which are obviously illegal or defamatory, abusive or harmful, and may disable comments on posts which attract abusive or harmful comments.
3. We encourage users to be reflective about posting comments before hitting the publish button e.g.
 - Will my comment offend someone?
 - Is it defamatory?
 - How would I react if someone else wrote the same thing?

Last Review: N/A

Next scheduled: Nov 2025

Signed BOT Presiding member

Date: April 2023



4. We encourage users of any Raglan Area School communication platforms to treat these forums like a shared community resource – a place to spread skills, knowledge and interests through ongoing conversation.

Related Raglan Area School Policies and/or Procedures

This policy must be read in conjunction with the following:

- [Raglan Area School Bullying Prevention and Response Policy](#)

Raglan Area School Values

- **Manaakitanga:** We are respectful, kind and empathetic.
- **Whanaungatanga:** We are inclusive and connect genuinely with others.
- **Kaitiakitanga:** We are caretakers of Te Ao Maaori and our world.
- **Poutama:** We are resilient and aspire to excellence.

Last Review: N/A

Next scheduled: Nov 2025

Signed BOT Presiding member

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