

Protecting Student Privacy on Social Media

Do's and ~~Don'ts~~ for Teachers



Social media can be a great classroom tool for modeling what good digital citizenship looks like. Check out this handy list of do's and don'ts for protecting your students' privacy while teaching them responsible, creative, and critical media use:

Establish Transparent Policies

DO: Locate and review your school or district's social media guidelines.

DO: Use parental consent/opt-out forms.

 **DON'T:** Start using social media in your classroom without guidelines in place.



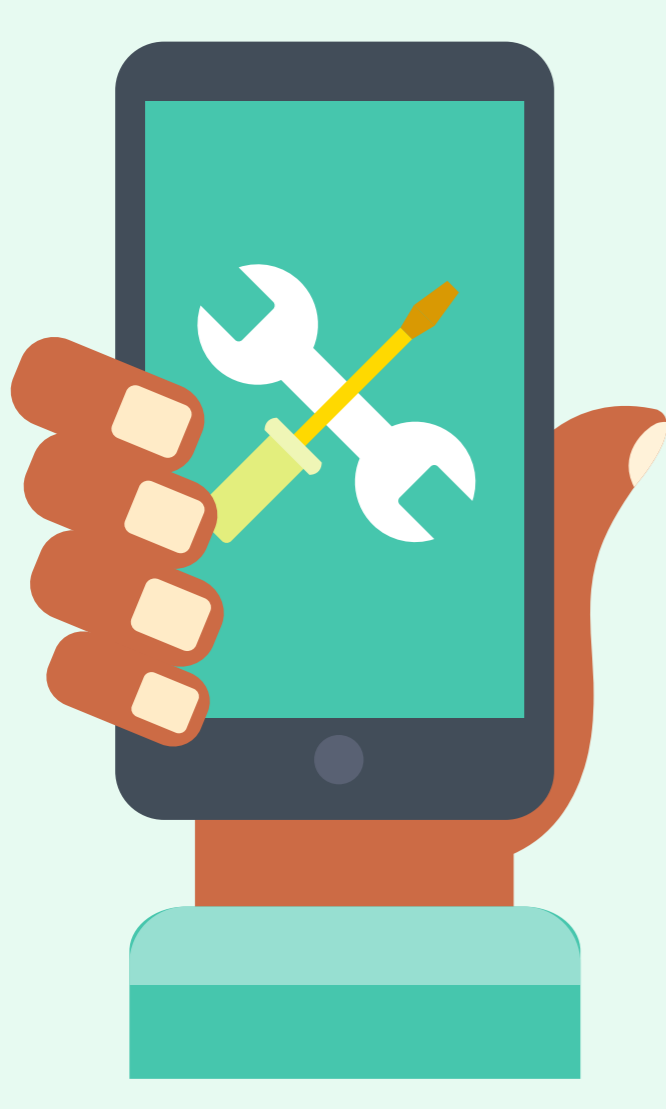
Gear Up and Set Up

DO: Consider creating a separate account for professional use.


DO: Explain to students how you'll be using social media.

DO: Review the privacy settings on any personal social media accounts.

DO: Take an inventory of the sharing settings for your digital files and folders.



DO: Get photo-editing tools for your phone or tablet to edit out sensitive information.

 **DON'T:** Display sensitive student or class information on walls, whiteboards, etc.


Protect Confidential Information

DO: Be mindful of social posts that feature or promote an educational product.


DO: Closely review any picture you share before posting.


DO: Look out for name tags and jerseys.

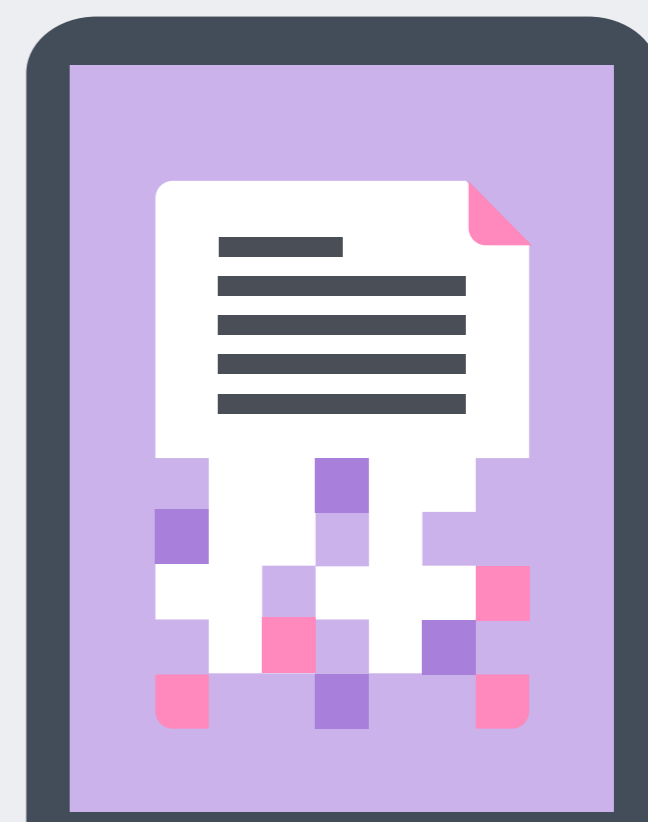
DO: Turn off location services for your phone when taking pictures.

 **DON'T:** Share students' faces or names without explicit parental consent.

 **DON'T:** Use students' names when naming files.

 **DON'T:** Publicly share grades, assessments, or any part of a student's educational record.

 **DON'T:** Forget that handwriting is personally identifiable information.



Not Quite Ready to Go Public?



DO: Use a classroom-only tool such as an LMS to share safely, and build your classroom's digital citizenship skills.