

ONLINE COLLABORATION

Levels 3-4



No doubt you can identify these popular social media icons...



Did you know that social media doesn't just refer to popular apps and sites like Instagram, Snapchat or Facebook?

Social media refers to when two or more users can connect through a digital platform. Ever played a game and chatted with friends using a gaming console like an Xbox? That's considered social media.

Social media can be a great tool in the right hands! It allows us to connect with friends that don't live locally or keep an eye on our favorite celebrities and see what they are up to. Using this tool for school work (because we are at school after all!) has some great advantages to when and where you complete your work.

Following safety measures is about knowing what information to keep to yourself and what to share. It's more than giving someone your password (shame on you if you have!). You could open an unknown file which could contain a virus, share information without permission or claim a photo or document was yours when it wasn't.

We have social rules when we interact with people in person and the same applies when we connect online. There are certain social rules we expect you to follow. Something as simple as WRITING IN CAPS is disrespectful because it's a method used to yell. Or deleting someone's work because you felt like it – that's not cool either! Using sarcasm in a written comment is really difficult to detect and can cause confusion really quickly. Social contexts change all the time - how you text your friend is different to how you might speak to your principal!

When working online it is important that everyone in your team follows these rules. Sometimes people don't follow these rules and that's when things get messy. If you are caught in a situation where people aren't following those rules (would you put up with a friend constantly speaking into a megaphone, or would you tell them to stop?) speak to someone you can trust. It's ok to ask for help and speak up, what's not ok is to allow people to think that behavior is totally acceptable by not saying anything. The only way to stamp out bad behavior is to call people on it.

