

Guidance for the personal use of social networking sites for adults working or volunteering in the Equine Industry.

More advice is available <http://www.bhs.org.uk/our-charity/about-us-and-our-work/working-with-the-law/safeguarding-children>

The following guidance will help to protect your privacy and prevent allegations against you:

- Do not accept friend requests from clients or competitors – you are in a position of trust
- If you wish to communicate to clients and competitors, separate your personal and professional social networking identities by setting up a separate professional account
- Remember that any photos, video clips and comments uploaded to the internet may be there forever even if you delete them and they may also be viewed by people that you may not think will see them. Make sure they are appropriate for everyone to view and adhere to your organisations policy
- Choose your profile picture with care
- Do not accept friend requests on social networking sites from people unless you know them
- Do not give out personal details such as your address, mobile number or location on any website unless you have separate professional contact details
- Make sure your personal social networking profile is set to private or for friends only
- Make sure your professional profile remains professional and do not allow comments, posts or photos to be uploaded that may be hurtful to others
- If you communicate with clients or competitors under the age of 18 make sure you have permission to do so from parents/carers. Always copy another colleague, welfare officer or moderator into the message/communication
- If you are worried about any young person use your organisation e-safety report procedure and/or report your concerns to www.ceop.police.uk

Useful Information & links

Available from www.bhs.org.uk:

- e-safety guidance for children & young People
- e-safety guidance for clubs, centres and coaches
- Guidelines on use of photography & video
- Reporting an e-safety incident – online, text messages or photographic images

Child Exploitation and Online Protection centre – www.ceop.police.uk

Think u Know – www.thinkuknow.co.uk – advice site for young people and parents

NSPCC – Childline 0800 1111 – www.nspcc.org.uk

Child Protection in Sport Unit - http://www.nspcc.org.uk/inform/cpsu/cpsu_wda57648.html

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