



IATEFL

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IATEFL Social Media Policy

What is Social Media?

In very broad terms, social media are web-based communication tools that enable people to interact with each other by both sharing and consuming information. This policy covers the use of IATEFL Social Media platforms and also includes the subcategory of social-networking.

IATEFL Social Media platforms are:

[IATEFL Facebook Page](#)

[IATEFL ECT Group](#)

[IATEFL Flickr account](#)

[IATEFL LinkedIn account](#)

[IATEFL Facebook Group](#)

[IATEFL Twitter account](#)

[IATEFL Instagram account](#)

[IATEFL YouTube channel](#)

and all of the [16 IATEFL Special Interest Groups'](#) social media pages as linked to from their websites.

Social media, when used responsibly, can help to build communities and networks with other like-minded individuals. It breaks down geographical boundaries and can provide support, information sharing and forums for discussion.

Terms of this policy

The IATEFL social media policy aims to ensure that discussions held on, or interactions through IATEFL social media platforms, stay safe, respectful, legal and relevant.

This policy applies to anyone using any of our social media platforms whether a member of IATEFL or not. By using the IATEFL social media platform, you are agreeing to follow this policy.

IATEFL social media platforms are public forums therefore please only post information that you are happy to be in the public domain. Please see the [IATEFL Privacy Policy](#) for more guidance.

To ensure the benefits of social media are maximised, please:

- Know and follow [IATEFL's Code of Conduct](#)
- Treat others on social media as you would like to be treated yourself - respect your audience and be courteous to them. Messages must not include personal attacks, content that is offensive, defamatory or libellous, vulgar, hateful, threatening, abusive, invasive or in violation of any laws or good morals and practice.
- We encourage critical dialogue but do not use social media to defame others or publicly condemn the work of a fellow professional, or to spread rumours or misinformation. Focus on issues rather than personalities.
- Try to add value - use IATEFL social media platforms to generate relevant questions and conversation and to provide insight and expertise.
- If you make a mistake, don't be afraid to admit it and be the first to correct it. If you choose to modify content that was previously posted, make it clear you have done so.

- Link and connect with others in our industry but do not harass other users by making repeated and unwanted attempts to contact them in a manner that could cause distress.
- Use your best judgement - bear in mind that what you might consider offensive or non-offensive might be considered differently by others. Before posting, consider your comments from the perspective of others. If you wouldn't make a comment in a face to face context, don't make it online.
- Be you - do not impersonate any person or organisation or falsely claim any affiliation with a person or organisation.
- If quoting someone else please ensure you give them the credit and quote a source citation. Never use copyright material and always consider use of brands, trademarks and fair use. IATEFL is not responsible for any information posted by members that may infringe copyright law, but such posts may be removed from IATEFL platforms if identified.
- Share relevant content only if you think it would be useful or of interest to other members. Any reference to third party organisations, products or services does not imply an endorsement by IATEFL.
- If something we consider to be spam is put on the IATEFL social media platforms, it will be removed.
- Advertising of products or services by commercial companies or those affiliated to them is not permitted and any promotion that IATEFL considers to be commercial in nature will be removed.

Inappropriate posts

- If you feel a posting on an IATEFL platform is inappropriate, you can report it to us by emailing info@iatefl.org. Whilst we do not operate a 24 hour policy, issues will be dealt with as quickly as possible.
- Most situations where someone may take offence are not straightforward and may call for a judgement from a moderator. A moderator may be someone from IATEFL Head Office or volunteers appointed by IATEFL and acting on the Associations behalf.
- Where IATEFL considers that a breach of policy has occurred, whether a report has been made or not, we reserve the right to take such action as we see fit.
- IATEFL has the right, but no obligation, to remove, edit, move or close any message or group of messages on an IATEFL platform for any reason. A user may also be removed from an IATEFL social media platform without prior notice. Whilst IATEFL may contact you to notify you of these changes, we are under no obligation to explain or enter into correspondence regarding this moderation. This decision rests with the Association or volunteers appointed by IATEFL and acting on the Associations behalf.
- IATEFL may report activities on its Social Media platforms to the relevant authorities if doing so may prevent a crime, assist in the detection of a crime or if we have a legal responsibility to do so.

IATEFL reserves the right to amend and update this policy.

Related documents

IATEFL Code of Conduct, IATEFL Privacy Policy, IATEFL and emails, IATEFL mission, goals and practices, Articles of Association, Complaints procedure.

These can all be found on the [Key documents](#) page of the IATEFL website.

Policy last reviewed September 2021