

Facebook Briefing Note

This briefing note is not aimed at the use of Facebook in school, *but has implications for safety and privacy for all Facebook users* – adults and young people. Facebook are currently directing all users to review their privacy settings through an on screen message window (at first log on after December 9th).

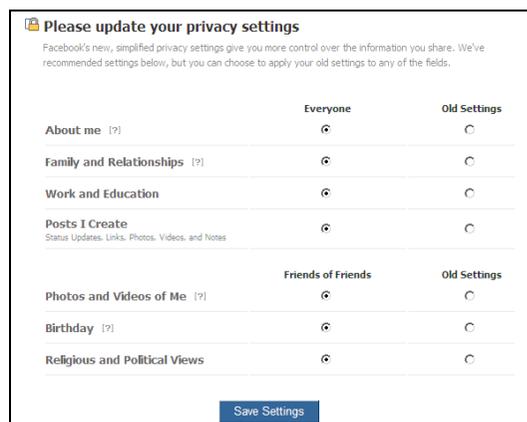
Why is this a concern?

- The process may lead Facebook users to widen access to their personal information from **friends only** to **everyone** without realising it.
- We are aware many pupils use Facebook, including young people at Primary schools. The age restriction for Facebook is 13 but many young people use Facebook with parental permission so we would not recommend asking Facebook to routinely remove all underage profiles unless there are issues such as cyberbullying or inappropriate contact or posting.

What does the Privacy settings review look like?

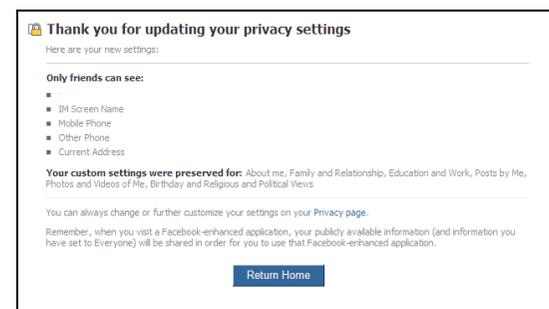


If you say **continue to next step** you get the screen below, notice it has suggested opening the profile up to everyone – the temptation is to just select **save settings** and as a result open up your privacy to everyone.



What strongly recommend users:

- Keep old settings
- Only share with Friends
- Do not share with everyone



To check your privacy settings

- Log into Facebook
- Selects settings from the top bar (right hand side)
- then privacy settings
- profile information

If you have concerns – reporting issues to Facebook

Facebook will only follow up concerns if their terms and conditions have been breached

- Email from a school email address only to abuse@facebook.com
- Include the URL of the profile you are reporting – the name of the person is not sufficient
- State why the profile/page breaches terms and conditions (<http://www.facebook.com/terms.php>) e.g. pupil is under age 13, the profile is an imposter etc.
- Put your contact information, including your job title etc.