

Case 1

Case scenario:

Miss Chow is a teacher who enjoys exploring around to taste culinary delights in her spare time and likes to share her comments about the food on social media. Many of her friends and students like 🍷 her posts and consider them a reliable gourmet guide.

With Internet culture becoming a hot topic lately, the media conducts interviews to gather people's views. Some interviewees comment on certain impertinent behaviour of young netizens. Among them is Mr Chan, who earnestly advises the younger generation to refrain from making hasty remarks. His words, however, greatly upset Miss Chow.

Mr Chan happens to be the owner of a cha chaan teng near the school where Miss Chow teaches. With a positive word-of-mouth reputation, the cha chaan teng has been hugely popular with students, teachers and parents, and frequented by Miss Chow as well. After watching the interview, Miss Chow forwards the news on her Facebook page and posts a comment, “🤬 #\$\$@!& 🤬 (Note: foul language) XX cha chaan teng is subpar, just like its owner Mr Chan 🤬. I won't be going there again! I'll act on my words. You'll join me, won't you?”

Miss Chow's post immediately garners the messages of support from her students and friends, who express their strong intention to boycott the cha chaan teng...

Questions for discussion:

1. Do you agree with Miss Chow's behaviour of posting about her personal life on social media and sharing it with friends (including students)? Why?
2. What are your thoughts on Miss Chow's post about Mr Chan?
3. What do you think if the post is not written but rather forwarded by Miss Chow?

School-based review:

Review the school codes/school-based policies in connection with teachers' words and deeds as well as their information literacy, and supplement/revise the content to further elucidate the professional conduct expected of teachers.

Summary:

As role models for students, teachers carry a weighty responsibility as what they preach and practise has a profound impact on students. To play their part as role models, teachers should be mindful of their words and deeds. They should refrain from posting radical comments or those that contain indecent/crude language or convey incendiary ideas/strong hatred on social media. Such comments will inculcate wrong values in their students and tarnish the professional image of teachers.