

# Social Media Respectful Interaction Policy

V1.1 August 2024

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## 1 Policy Statement

At BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT, we're committed to fostering an inclusive, diverse, and respectful online community. Our social media channels are designed to be welcoming spaces where all individuals can engage in meaningful and respectful dialogue.

## 2 Commitment to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (E, D & I)

We believe that a diverse and inclusive environment is crucial for innovation and progress in the tech sector. Our commitment to E, D & I means we actively support and promote a culture where everyone can thrive and contribute.

## 3 Zero tolerance for hate speech

Hate speech, defined as any communication that belittles, demeans, or discriminates against individuals or groups based on attributes such as race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, religion, or age, is strictly prohibited on our social media platforms.

## 4 Guidelines for engagement:

#### Respectful communication

We expect all interactions with our content to be conducted with respect and courtesy. Personal attacks, harassment, and abusive language are not tolerated.

#### Constructive feedback

We welcome constructive feedback and value respectful discussions. We encourage the sharing of ideas and suggestions, with the goal to foster a positive and inclusive environment. We strive to learn and grow from feedback and appreciate the community's support in maintaining respectful and thoughtful interactions.

#### **Inclusivity**

Contributions should respect and acknowledge the diversity of our community. Avoid language or behaviour that could be interpreted as exclusionary or discriminatory.

### 5 Monitoring and Enforcement:

#### **Active monitoring**

Our social media channels are actively monitored to ensure compliance with this policy.

#### Reporting mechanism

Users are encouraged to report any instances of hate speech or inappropriate behaviour to our social team.

#### Consequences

Violations of this policy will result in the removal of offensive content and may lead to temporary or permanent bans from our social media channels and behaviour being reported via the relevant social platform channels. Severe cases may be escalated to appropriate authorities.

## 6 Policy summary

BCS is dedicated to maintaining a safe and welcoming online environment for all. By upholding these standards, we ensure that our social media platforms remain spaces where respectful and inclusive dialogue can flourish.

For any questions or to report violations, please contact our social media moderation team at <a href="mailto:brand@bcs.uk">brand@bcs.uk</a>.

## 7 Monitoring and Review

The Communications Policy shall be reviewed on an annual basis by the Head of Brand Marketing in line with departmental quality standards and regulatory criteria.



For further information please contact:

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