

Date: **1 July 2019**

Our reference: **FOIRQ5268**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your request for information processed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please see our response to your request below:

**Your Request and Our Response (in bold)**

**Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust (the 'Trust') is a single site, specialist tertiary paediatric trust. Please see our response to your following request for information:**

1. *Do you have a staff social media policy?* **Yes**
2. *Do you have a policy or guidance on staff use of messaging apps, such as WhatsApp, Siilo, Forward?* **Yes**
3. *Does your Trust actively discourage the use of WhatsApp?* **No**
4. *In the past two calendar years, have any staff been formally disciplined for the inappropriate use of messaging apps at work (i.e. for sharing clinical information) or for using unapproved messaging apps?* **No** If yes, how many?  
**N/A**
5. *Are you aware how many staff use WhatsApp for work-based communication with colleagues?* **No** If yes, how many?  
**N/A**
6. *Have you recommended or implemented a messaging platform for use across your Trust? If yes, which app or platform do you use?* **We use SNAP Communications for IT Notifications; but general messaging is not currently a messaging platform used by the Trust. This is under review dependent on the budget available.**

Please note:

The information we have provided under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is the information held up to the date your request was received by the Trust.

We trust the information provided is sufficient and helpful in answering your request for information. If, however, you have any queries in relation to your request, please do not hesitate to contact the FOI Team and quote the above reference number on any related correspondence.

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Yours sincerely

**Freedom of Information team**

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust  
Email: [foiteam@gosh.nhs.uk](mailto:foiteam@gosh.nhs.uk)

**[Enclosed – Your rights – see next page]**

**Your Rights**

If you are dissatisfied with the response you have received to your request for information, please contact the FOI team and quote your reference number on all correspondence relating to your request.

You can also write to the Head of Quality & Safety at the following address:

Quality & Safety team  
Great Ormond Street Hospital  
LONDON  
WC1N 3JH

If you are still not satisfied with your response, you also have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner.

You can contact the Information Commissioner's Office at the following address:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF