



## OFNC WhatsApp Platforms Terms of Use and Guideline

**Approved by NEC on 9<sup>th</sup> of October 2021**

### **PURPOSE**

The forum provides an interactive and informative platform for OFNC members or friends for the purpose of enlightening, encouraging and supporting one another in accordance with God's word and the fellowship's vision and missions.

We aim to uphold the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. We desire to build faith, hope and love of Christ in all members. We desire all members to have the mind of Christ.

We aim to share on issues of significance to the family, church and society. We also aim to share in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs and other edifying thoughts or materials. The following terms and conditions will apply to every user of OFNC WhatsApp platforms.

This guideline is to be read with the OFNC Social Media Policy.

### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

1. You are aged 18 years or over and are:
  - i) a member of the OFNC or
  - ii) you are an acknowledged friend of the fellowship
2. You are a Christian or exploring what it means to be a Christian or you have been invited to experience what sharing in a Christian community can be.
3. You agree with the OFNC Data Protection and Social Media policies, which are designed to safeguard the integrity and reputation of the fellowship. These policies can be found at <http://www.ofnc.org.uk/policies>
4. You agree with ideals of relationship such as exemplified in Philippians 4:8 that demands Christians to think of those things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and admirable. Communications must be excellent and praiseworthy.
5. The group Administrators for OFNC WhatsApp platforms should ideally be the same individuals who are the leaders of that group, ministry, or body within the OFNC. For

example, the National Men's Coordinator and the leadership team for the group should ideally be the Administrators of the OFNC Men's WhatsApp group. Similarly, the National Women's Coordinator and the leadership team for the group should ideally be the Administrators of the OFNC Women's WhatsApp group.

6. All OFNC WhatsApp Group Administrators **MUST** ensure that WhatsApp Two-Step Verification is enabled on their devices. This is to protect themselves and the group from malicious hackers, who would readily takeover the running of the WhatsApp group if they successfully hack into the WhatsApp of a group Administrator.
7. OFNC WhatsApp Group Administrators should encourage members of their groups, from time to time, to enable WhatsApp Two-Step Verification on their devices. Doing so would protect them and everyone else in the group from hackers. The Two-Step Verification can be enabled from WhatsApp Settings > Account > Two-Step Verification > Enable (by using email address and PIN).
8. The Administrators of OFNC WhatsApp platforms are the 'eyes' of the OFNC on that platform. They should ensure that group members post responsibly and in compliance with this policy guidelines. The Administrators are the 'enforcers' of this social media policy provision on their platforms. The platform Administrators have the power to remove or delete any group member who is in persistent breach of this policy guidelines, having previously reprimanded and educated them on the provision of this policy. The platform Administrator has the power to admit new members to the group.
9. If a user of the platform is in doubt of the appropriateness of the content of a post to be made on an OFNC WhatsApp group, the information may be forwarded privately to the Administrator of that group, in the first instance, for a prior discussion on whether the content is appropriate for sharing on the platform.
10. Where a user of the platform has been deemed to be disruptive or acted in breach of any of the terms of and conditions of the group or any OFNC policy, the group administrators, having consulted with one another, may ask the user to, where possible, delete or publicly apologise to the group; and if necessary, the user may be suspended or removed from the group.

#### **- GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF OFNC WHATSAPP PLATFORMS**

- i) All users of OFNC WhatsApp Platforms are valued and are encouraged to share their original thoughts on the forum.
- ii) Issues on all aspects of family, church and society can be shared to the glory of God.
- iii) Users may share psalms, hymns and spiritual songs on the platform for edification of the body.
- iv) Context should be provided for any forwarded material especially where others may not easily discern the relevance.

- v) As much as possible, users will verify the authenticity of any materials posted before they are posted on the platform especially where the consequences of misinformation can be significant and damaging.
- vi) Users are free to respond to posts by others, to affirm, seek further clarification or provide follow up thoughts.
- vii) Every effort should be made to ensure communications and responses are courteous and sensitive to others' frailties and circumstances.
- viii) Disagreements and clarifications should be communicated politely and in love.
- ix) Aggressive, insulting, and judgemental postings or responses must be avoided.
- x) Make every effort to avoid divisive and inciting communications that could lead to disunity and division.
- xi) While articles of political nature may be shared, this should be with an aim for restorative intercession.
- xii) The OFNC is not a political organisation and neither does it have any political affiliation. Therefore, direct thoughts/comments or materials that may be deemed political partisan may not be posted on OFNC WhatsApp Platforms.
- xiii) Effort should be made to provide intercessory and constructive solutions to issues of life.
- xiv) Give obvious warnings for any graphic images that may distress other members. If possible, provide a link to such images so that only those who intend will sight such.
- xv) Any matters associated with graphic images that may distress other members can be described in detail to convey the gravity of the issues and implications with the aim to solicit intercessory and practical solutions in line with the scriptures.
- xvi) In cases where adverts are placed on the platform by members, OFNC does not necessarily endorse such adverts.

## Revisions

Revision No.	Date	Changes	Notes	Date of next review