Blogging Guidelines for the classroom

As a student blogger you are expected to follow these blogging guidelines below. Use the questions in italics to help you decide what is appropriate to post on your blog.

1. Only post things that you would want everyone (in school, at home, in other countries) to know. Ask yourself: Is this something I want everyone to see?
2. Do not share personal information. Ask yourself: Could someone find me (in real life) based on this information?
3. Think before you post. Ask yourself: What could be the consequences of this post?
4. Know who you’re communicating with. Ask yourself: Who is going to look at this, and how are they going to interpret my words?
5. Consider your audience and that you’re representing your school. Ask yourself: Do I have a good reason/purpose to do this?
6. Know how to give constructive feedback. Ask yourself: What will I cause by writing this post?
7. Treat other people the way you want to be treated. Ask yourself: Would I want someone to say this to me?
8. Use appropriate language and proper grammar and spelling. Ask yourself: Would I want this post to be graded for proper grammar and spelling?
9. Only post information that you can verify is true (no gossiping). Ask yourself: Is this inappropriate, immature or bullying?
10. Anytime you use media from another source, be sure to properly cite the creator of the original work. Ask yourself: Who is the original creator of this work?

Commenting Guidelines As a blogger, you will be commenting on other people’s work regularly. Good comments:
* are constructive, but not hurtful;
* consider the author and the purpose of the post;
* are always related to the content of the post;
* include personal connections to what the author wrote;
* answer a question, or add meaningful information to the content topic;
* follow the writing process. Comments are a published piece of writing.

Developed by Kim Cofino http://mscofino.edublogs.org/about-me/
This is another list of guidelines referenced by many educators that blog with students.

1. Never post last names, addresses or any information that might be able to identify you, your family members or friends.
2. If you want to write your opinion on a topic, make sure you're not going to be offensive as you write it.
3. Always make sure you check over your post for spelling errors, grammar errors, and your use of words. Paste your post in a word processor and run spell check or download a spell checker for your browser.
4. Never disrespect someone else in your post, whether it’s a person, an organization, or just a general idea. You don’t want someone making an inappropriate remark about something that is important to you; don’t do it to someone else.
5. Don’t write about other people without permission. If you can’t get their permission, use first names only. Never share someone else’s last name.
6. Watch your language! This is part of your school community. Language that is inappropriate in school is also inappropriate in a blog post.
7. Make sure you write things that are factual. Don’t post about things that aren’t true. Link to your sources.
8. Keep the blog education-oriented. This means you shouldn’t discuss things like your plans for the weekend.

Adapted from http://patterson.edublogs.org/all-about-blogs