



Online Safety

What to expect

How do we keep young people **safe online**?



Most of us are vulnerable online, but particularly children

Young people are at risk of the following areas whilst online:



Understanding the Risks

- Emotional Harm
- Financial Harm
- Physical Harm



The Three Cs

	Content	Contact	Conduct
	Child as Receiver (of mass produced content)	Child as Participant (initiated by adults or children)	Child as Actor (perpetrator or victim in exchanges)
Aggressive	Violent Content	Harassment	Online Bullying
Sexual	Pornographic Content	Grooming	Sexting
Values	Hate Content	Ideological Persuasion	Harmful Content
Commercial	Adverts & Spam	Identity Theft	Copyright Infringement/Privacy



Online Bullying (Cyberbullying)

1 in 8 young people have been bullied on social media

- Direct via the use of verbal attacks
- Indirect via exclusion and by spreading rumours
- Through social networking sites, gaming sites, chat rooms, email or phone messages
- Can occur alongside physical bullying





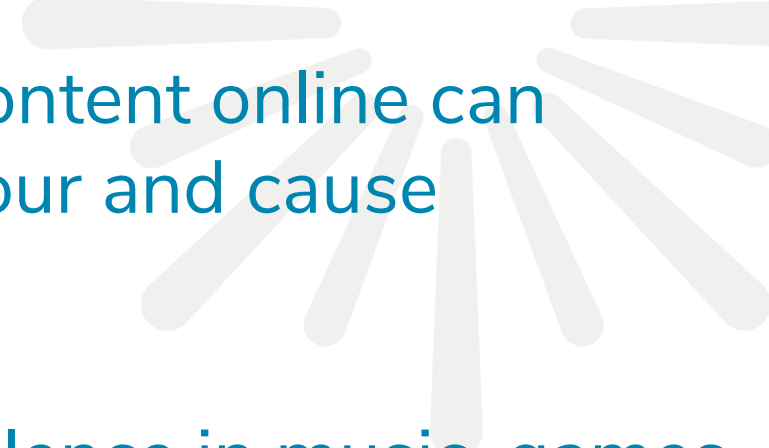
Online Bullying, Managing the Risks

- Work with children to **block the bullies**
- Tell children you are pleased that they told you about the problems, **reassure them** it's not their fault and that you are going to help
- If the child knows the bully through school or another organisation, **contact relevant member of staff**
- If necessary, help children to **change contact details**
- As a last resort, call the police. It is not against the law, however the '**Protection from Harrassment Act**' can be applied
- Parents need to keep in mind that it is possible for their child to be the bully, as well as the victim
- Children cannot be expected to be resilient to bullying and need to be able to feel supported



Violent Content

- Exposure to violent content online can normalise the behaviour and cause desensitisation
- Studies show that violence in music, games, television and films is linked to an increase in violence within society
- Proven that some young people who are exposed to violent content tend to be more aggressive when 'playing' with one another



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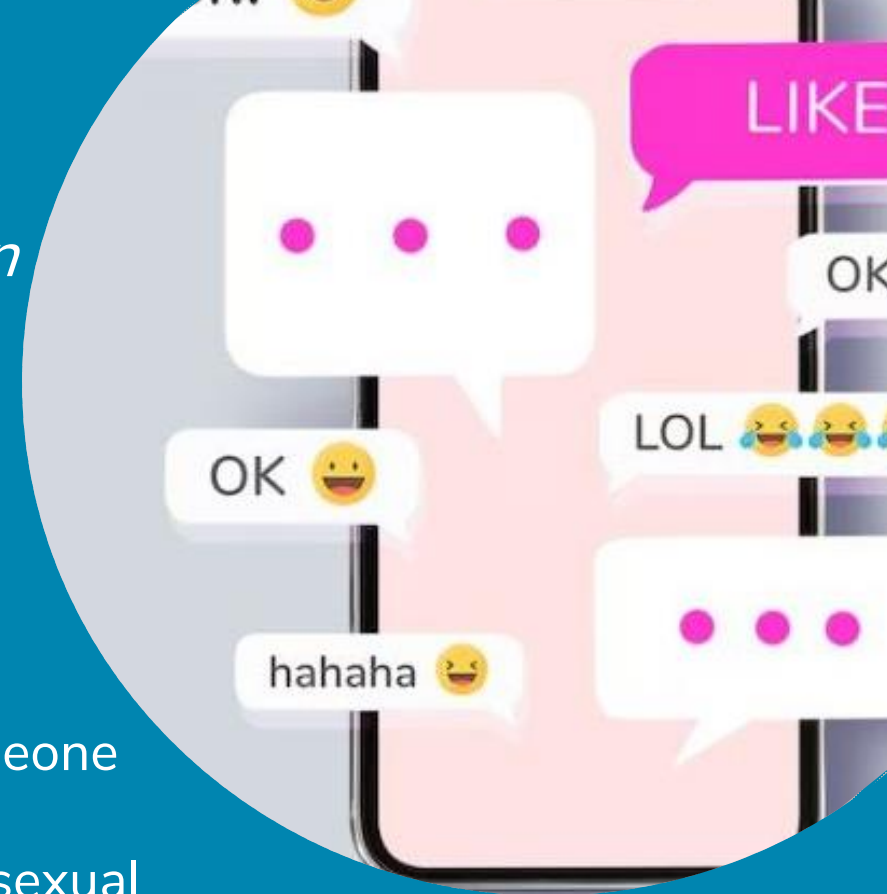


Grooming

Definition: *When someone builds an emotional connection with a child to gain their trust in order to exploit them*

Can be to...

- Sexually abuse or exploit
 - Defraud or use them for criminal activity
 - Make them receptive to extremist ideas
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- Can happen online or face-to-face by a stranger or someone they know
 - Grooming for sexual abuse or exploitation may involve sexual conversations (sexting) and sending or requesting naked sexualised images/videos. These images can be used to coerce or threaten
 - Offenders may pretend to be famous or another young person
 - Often the offender will attempt to get the child to meet them
 - Make contact through social networking sites, chat rooms or games



Grooming, Managing the Risks

- Explain that not everyone is who they say they are and talk about grooming
- Make sure children understand that they should never meet up with anyone they don't know from online, without taking a trusted adult with them
- Talk about the sites that they use and the type of information they shouldn't share
- Make them aware that if they send anything private or compromising over the internet, that these can be shared with others or used to blackmail them
- Hold off, for as long as possible, a child's access to a webcam and keep this in family areas
- Let children know you're always there for support
- Learn how to report inappropriate contact at: www.ceop.police.uk



Harmful Sexual Content

Young people are living in a highly sexualised media culture – the lines between pornographic material and entertainment are regularly blurred

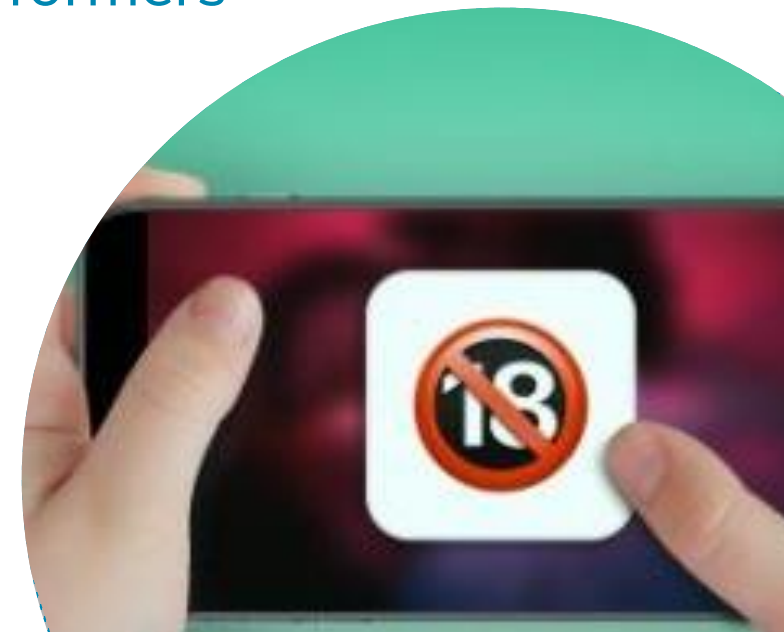
A recent study by NSPCC showed that over half 11-16 year olds have seen explicit material online, with almost all young people having been exposed to such material by 14

Children who watch pornography are more likely to:

- Engage in sexually risky behaviour
- Become sexually active at a young age
- Develop distorted attitudes to relationships & sex

Harmful Sexual Content, Managing the Risks

- Talk to young people honestly and openly about sex from an early age, emphasising consent and respect
- Ensure young people feel comfortable about coming to talk to you if they encounter anything disturbing or unwanted online
- Help young people to understand that pornography is acting – it does not represent real sex or relationships
- If your young person is old enough, explain that some performers have been coerced, trafficked or exploited to be part of pornography
- Set parental controls to block adult websites
 - Set up computer in busy area of home and not in the young person's bedroom



Social Networking

Social media and networking exposes children to a huge number of strangers

Up to a third of 11-15 year olds are in contact with people that they do not know



Social Networking, Managing the Risks

- Create their profile with them and help them set privacy setting at the strongest level
- Teach them how to block or ignore people online
- Be aware of location-sharing apps, such as the Snap-Map function on Snapchat. Help them to know how to opt out
- Become familiar with the social networking sites that they're using and connect with them on it
- Explain they should never post personal details online e.g. home address or school
- Educate them in understanding that whatever they choose to post online will stay there forever



WhatsApp Groups

Targeted grooming on social media apps, console game chats and other methods of social media communication



Things to Look Out For in Y7

TikTok

Creation of inappropriate social media pages using the school name and or images of school staff and rating them, which is offensive to many

Thank you for listening
Any questions?

