



SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT



Digital Safety

**WARNING – SOME OF THE CONTENT IN THIS EDITION MAY BE TRIGGERING.
PLEASE SPEAK TO A MEMBER OF THE SAFEGUARDING TEAM IF YOU WOULD LIKE SUPPORT**

The 4 Cs of online safety

Content is anything posted online – it might be words or it could be images and video. Children and young people may see illegal, inappropriate or harmful content when online. This includes things like pornography, fake news, racism, misogyny, self-harm, suicide, anti-Semitism, radicalisation and extremism.

Contact is about the risk of harm young people may face when interacting with other users online. This includes things like peer-to-peer pressure or seeing inappropriate commercial advertising. Sometimes adults pose as children or young adults with the intention of grooming or exploiting a child or young person for sexual, criminal, financial or other purposes.

Conduct means the way people behave online. Some online behaviour can increase the likelihood, or even cause, harm – for example, online bullying. Conduct also includes things like sharing or receiving nudes and semi-nude images and viewing or sending pornography.

Commerce is about the risk from things like online gambling, inappropriate advertising, phishing or financial scams. Children and young people may be exposed to these risks directly.



CYBER BULLYING



Examples include:

- Written or verbal attacks
- Threats of physical violence (including towards a person's family or property)
- Name calling
- Denigration (putting someone down in front of others)
- Cyberstalking (following someone without their knowledge)
- Masquerading (pretending to be someone different or setting up fake profiles)
- Exclusion
- Prank or silent phone calls
- Outing (posting personal information without consent)
- Impersonation (stealing someone's password and pretending to be them)
- Flaming (intentionally starting fights)
- Rumour spreading.

There are indications to suggest that cyberbullying may be as dangerous to a young person's wellbeing as more traditional bullying behaviours.

ONLINE RELATIONSHIPS

Online relationships can occur in any online services that allow two-way communication. The relationship may be for friendship, companionship, romance or even business.

Young people can be groomed online, in person or both – by a stranger or someone they know. Groomers may hide who they are by sending photos or videos of other people. Sometimes this'll be of someone younger than them to gain the trust of a "peer". They might target one child online or contact lots of children very quickly and wait for them to respond. This could be in the form of:

A romantic relationship, as a mentor, an authority figure, a dominant and persistent figure.

ASHLEIGH'S RULES

1. If ever meeting up with somebody who is alien to you or your friends make sure that you meet them in a group of at least 2-3 and in a public, well lit and populated area.
2. Inform somebody of where you are going and what time you should be back, also the name of who you are meeting.
3. Don't accept anyone on social networking sites that you don't know.
4. Remember never to trust anyone who you have met online, you don't know what they are capable of doing.
5. Never tell a stranger on network sites or chat rooms anything personal about yourself, e.g. Where you live, date of birth etc.
6. Never meet anyone you don't know, simple as!

SENDING NUDES

Sending nudes' specifically refers to the act of sending naked photos of yourself to someone else, but is used more broadly to mean sending photos of yourself which are sexually explicit including 'semi-nudes' or topless shots. Like with sexting, it can be a way of people flirting and engaging sexually with people digitally, whether or not they intend to be physically sexual with that person.

If you are under 18, any nudes or sexually explicit images you take of yourself will be considered Youth Produced Sexual Imagery (YPSI) and sharing them is illegal. This is the case even if it is with someone you are in a relationship with, you are having sex with and/or they are the same age as you.

THE LAW

It is illegal to send naked images or videos of, or to, people under 18. This means that, if you are under 18, you should not be sending or receiving sexually explicit images even if you are in a sexual relationship with the other person/people. If you are over 18, it is illegal for you to receive sexually explicit photos of someone who is under 18.

Intimate Image Abuse (previously known as revenge porn)

Intimate image abuse (also known as 'revenge porn') is when someone takes or shares an intimate image of someone else, with the intention to humiliate, intimidate, alarm or distress the person. It is never okay to do this, and is a violation of someone's consent.

Tips and Advice

Can you be sure that the person you are sending photos to won't show their friends or post them publicly online?

Could you be putting yourself at risk of blackmail or bullying?

Is the phone being used by the person you're sexting 100% secure at all times or is there a chance that someone else might unlock their phone and find your messages? Could someone see an image on their phone over their shoulder?

It's important to know that once you send or upload an image or video, you lose all control over it. Everything you share could be sent to someone else or posted online and potentially seen by anyone, including your friends, family and total strangers. People can take screenshots and capture your image on their phone, even if you send a photo with a time limit. Those messages, images or video could potentially exist forever and could resurface when you least expect it.

HOW WILL COLLEGE SUPPORT ME?

The college devices and WIFI have a piece of software called Smoothwall installed on them. This detects key stroke and if it picks up anything of concern it will alert the safeguarding team at college.

If we are alerted that a crime has been committed we will notify the relevant authorities and put support in place for you as the victim.

Please be aware we cannot guarantee confidentiality.

There may be times we have to share information with local authorities, police or parents/carers, regardless of age. Drop into the wellbeing centre, email safeguarding@mbro.ac.uk, text SAFE to 60081 or speak to a tutor.