

# Carrington School Online Safety



# What to expect from this session:



**Online Safety** – How do we keep young people safe online?



# Understanding the Risks

Most of us are vulnerable online, but particularly children.

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

1. Emotional Harm
2. Financial Harm
3. Physical Harm



# The Three Cs of Online Safety

	Content	Contact	Conduct
	Child as <u>Receiver</u> (of mass produced content)	Child as <u>Participant</u> (initiated by adults or children)	Child as <u>Actor</u> (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.

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



# Online Bullying

## How can we help to manage 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



- If young people are exposed to violent content online, this can normalise the behaviour for them. Some young people will become desensitised to it, causing them to lack empathy and develop an unrealistic view of the world.
- Many studies show that the violence in music, games, television and films is linked to an increase in violence within society.
- It has also been proven that some young people who are exposed to violent content tend to be more aggressive when 'playing' with one another.



# Violent Content

## How can we help manage the risks?

- Have conversations with young people about fictional violence vs real violence, as its consequences
- Encourage young people to develop their own moral code, as well as consequential thinking and behaviour
- Discourage media that portrays killing or violent behaviour as entertainment
- Watch age appropriate programmes together as a family
- Monitor and limit amount of exposure young people have to violent films, music & games
- Do not provide unsupervised access to the internet for young people
- A young person's reaction to violence will be influenced by how the adults around them respond.





# Grooming

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

**It may include:**

1. Sexual abuse or exploitation
2. Defraud child or use them for criminal activity
3. Make them receptive to extremist ideas

- Children can be groomed 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 them
- Offenders may pretend to be famous or another young person
- Often the offender will attempt to get the child to meet them
- Such people will attempt to make contact through social networking sites, chat rooms or games



# Grooming

## How can we help to manage the risk?

- Tell children that not everyone is who they say they are and talk to them 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 to children 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](http://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

## How can we help to manage the risk?

- 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

## How can we help to manage the risk?

- Create child's 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 children to know how to opt out.
- Become familiar with the social networking site that they're using and connect with them on it
- Tell children to never post their personal details online e.g. home address or school
- Educate children in understanding that whatever they choose to post online will stay there forever



# Things to look out for: Year 7



- WhatsApp Groups
- Tik Tok
- All the other usual risks for young people. Targeted grooming on social media apps, console game chats and other methods of social media communication.
- Creation of inappropriate social media pages using the school name and or images of staff on the school and rating them which is offensive to many



# Questions & Answers

