


ONLINE SAFETY ISSUES




Ormiston Bolingbroke Academy recognises that the internet is a fantastic resource that brings endless benefits. However, the online world also presents problems and risks which we all need to be aware of. These include:




Content

Being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful content, such as: pornography, fake news, racism, misogyny, self-harm, suicide, anti-Semitism, radicalisation and extremism.



Contact

Being subjected to harmful online interaction with other people; for example: peer pressure, commercial advertising and adults posing as children or young adults with the intention to groom or exploit them for sexual, criminal, financial or other purposes.




Conduct

Everything that you publish and post online creates what is known as your 'Digital Footprint' and stays with you for life. Many people have said and done things online which they later regret. This can affect your reputation and your career.




Commercialism

Young people's enjoyment online can sometimes lead to people unwillingly spending money online, risks include online gambling, inappropriate advertising, phishing and or financial scams.




Cyberbullying

When technology is used to hurt other peoples' feelings without seeing them in person. Cyberbullying can often be more hurtful than face-to-face bullying.




Online Sexual Harassment and Abuse

Young people may experience harassment, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or emotional abuse online. Such online harassment and abuse can be from people you know, as well as from strangers. People often feel like there is no escape from online abuse and harassment.




Disinformation

Not all the information we see online is true for example 'Fake News' often appears online. You should only ever trust reliable sources.




Radicalisation

Extremist organisations have been known to use the internet to try and encourage young people to share their views and ideologies.




Sexting

When messages and indecent images are sent to/from a young person. This is against the law and can have serious consequences. Sometimes these images can be used in 'revenge porn' acts which is also against the law and can be very upsetting for the victim.




Privacy

Personal details and information are sometimes hacked into by people with bad intentions, for example bank details to steal a person's money.




Catfishing

Pretending to be someone you're not online by posting false information, or using someone else's pictures or name to impersonate them.




Online Pressure

Many people feel pressured online to 'follow the crowd'. This can include getting involved in cyberbullying campaigns and using filters to look different. This often has a negative effect on a young person's self-esteem.



Overuse of Technology

Some young people spend too much time using technology. This often has a negative effect on a person's performance at school, their health and well-being as well as their social life.



Copyright and Privacy

Work shared online is often protected by copyright law and you may be breaking the law if you use other people's work or download content without permission or without paying for this service.

If you have an e-safety concern or would like more information on the above issues you should speak to **Mr Hussey - OBA E-safety Co-ordinator** or **ANY member of staff at school** who will happily support you.

