

Session Plan: Negative content on the internet	Duration: Approximately 55 Minutes	Age Group: KS 3 and 4
Aim: To raise young people's awareness of risks from content on some online sites		
Objectives: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raise awareness of sites promoting extreme behaviours 2. Raise awareness of other sites that may negatively impact health and well being 3. Raise awareness of the warning signs in relation to friends and family 4. Raise awareness of where to go for support 		
Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flipchart and pens • Children's Media Use and Attitudes (OFCOM 2019) • Propaganda videos: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wTWEMOtcqyw • Scapegoating: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5f1zJFY0EK • Down with the kids: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8E6qmBm2azw • Ommission: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIOmQ8X3o0c • Lesser of two evils: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WewTpcOAJu8 • Bandwagon: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IWCzaVDJNgQ • Assertion: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mW-hlenPz7E 		
Time (mins)	Content – including teaching methods and resources used	
0 – 5	Introduction to session and present statistics from Children's Media Use and Attitudes (OFCOM 2019) below, of how often young people come across sites with content that may be inappropriate.	
5 – 15	In small groups discuss whether individuals have ever come across sites or images that they thought were inappropriate or that may negatively influence behaviour. (pro- anorexia, pro-self harm, racist content etc), list what sites these were and why they were thought to be inappropriate / a possible negative influence	
15 – 20	Full group discussion: do you ever 'like' pages or use information in pages without checking out who created them / whether they are true? Give examples of 'extreme pages' using acceptable posts to get likes. (e.g. some extreme right wing groups will post photos to pull at heart strings (such as animals, war veterans etc) in order to get likes without people understanding their view point)	

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| 20 – 45 | Propaganda videos - show each video and ask the group to think of examples they have seen for each one (this could include TV or online adverts) |
| 45 - 50 | Small group work If you could raise awareness of one topic mentioned in the first discussion, what would it be? What advice would you give to other young people |
| 50 – 55 | What to do if . . . report to Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) / Childline, contact Social Networks directly to remove groups / posts / images / block unwanted contact, also Police if need be.
Main Key message – talk to a trusted adult
If it's a crime in action contact the police |

Additional resources

www.Thinkuknow.co.uk

<https://www.thecybersurvey.co.uk/>

<http://www.digitaldisruption.co.uk>

<https://hwb.gov.wales/search?query=fake%20news&types=resource&strict=true>

Some relevant highlights from: OFCOM Media and Attitudes Report 2019

Negative online experiences and coping strategies:

The experience of seeing hateful content online is increasing. Almost all children who go online recall being told about how to use the internet safely (96%).

8-11s are most likely to say this was from a parent (84%), while 12-15s are most likely to say it was from a teacher (also 84%). In 2019, more 8-15s recall receiving information from teachers at school (82% vs. 74% in 2018), from the police visiting their school (17% vs. 10% in 2018), and from friends (23% vs. 14% 2018).

Despite receiving this advice, children still see content that is inappropriate or makes them feel uncomfortable.

In particular, there has been an increase over the last four years in the proportions of children claiming to have seen anything hateful online about particular groups of people (based on, for instance, their gender, religion, disability, sexuality or gender identity).

In 2019, half of 12-15s who go online say they had seen something hateful about a particular group of people in the past 12 months – up from 34% in 2016.

Despite the increase in those seeing hateful content, there have been no increases in the proportions choosing to take any form of action over it.

Of those that saw hateful content in the past 12 months, the majority (58%) chose to ignore it, while the remainder (39%) took some form of action.

The most cited action was to block the person who shared or made the comments (16%), or to report it to the website (14%) – each unchanged since 2018.

One in ten chose to either share it with friends in order to say it was wrong or to comment on it, thereby inadvertently giving the hateful content greater exposure.