













Circle the correct answer

You have to be careful about what you post online, because it could be against the law.

TRUE FALSE NOT SURE

If a child under the age of 18 sends a naked picture of themselves to someone else, it is against the law.

TRUE FALSE NOT SURE

If a child forwards on a naked picture of someone else to embarrass or upset them, there could be serious legal consequences.

TRUE FALSE NOT SURE

If someone spreads nasty rumours or threats online about someone else, the police could get involved, depending on the severity of the case.

TRUE FALSE NOT SURE

Cyberbullying is not against the law.

TRUE FALSE NOT SURE

It is against the law to pose as someone else online, without their permission.

TRUE FALSE NOT SURE











There are laws that exist online and there are limits to what you can say online. Should someone receive a message and fear for their safety, this is against the law and you should contact the police, eg. a death threat. Context is taken into consideration, and the police will judge what was written on a case by case basis. The Malicious Communications Act, the Communications Act and the Protection from Harassment Act explain that threatening messages, with the purpose of causing distress, and especially if they are repeated messages, are against the law.



The Malicious Communications Act 1988 is a British Act of Parliament that makes it illegal in England and iWales to, "send or distribute letters or other articles for the purpose of causing distress or anxiety." This also includes electronic communication.

The Communications Act 2003 Section 127 (1) (a) relates to a message that is grossly offensive, or of an indecent, obscene or menacing character and should be used for indecent phone calls and emails.

Protection from Harassment Act 2007 This Act covers any form of harassment that has occurred 'repeatedly'; in this instance, 'repeatedly' means on one or more occasions.



The Computer Misuse Act 1990 says you can't impersonate or steal someone else's identity online. This means that writing a status on social media pretending to be your friend is technically against the law.

The Protection of Children Act 1978 says that indecent images (naked pictures) of children under the age of 18 are illegal. It is illegal for anyone to take, have on their device, distribute and share sexually explicit or partially nude images of children. This also means that if children take pictures of themselves (naked selfies), this is against the law as they have generated an indecent image of a child.



Section 33 of the Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015 refers to the new offence dealing with Revenge Pornography. This is a law relating to images of adults (ie over 18s), making it illegal to share or make public sexually explicit images of someone else, without their consent, with the intent to cause distress.







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What is the law? - Teachers' notes





You have to be careful about what you post online, because it could be against the law.



True or false?

True: There are many laws that incorporate the online world. A death threat and repeated, harassing messages intended to cause distress are against the law.

If a child under the age of 18 sends a naked picture of themselves to someone else, it is against the law.

True or false?



True: This refers to the Protection of Children Act 1978 and this law is in place for safeguarding and child protection reasons. In general, the police take a common sense approach to sexting and treat such incidents as a safeguarding matter. However, the potential for cautions, even prosecutions, exists in certain circumstances and could result in a criminal record for those involved.

If a child forwards on a naked picture of someone else to embarrass or upset them, there could be serious legal consequences.

True or false?



True: For children (under 18), police will take a safeguarding approach to the sending of naked pictures, but the potential for cautions, even prosecutions, exist in certain circumstances and could result in a criminal record for those involved. For adults (over 18), a new law has recently been passed in the UK (Section 33 of the Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015, otherwise known as the Revenge Porn law), that states that it is illegal for someone to forward a sexually explicit image of a former boyfriend or girlfriend, without their consent, for the sole purpose to embarrass or upset them. If prosecuted there is the potential for a maximum sentence of two years in prison for this offence.



Crossing Creative (











If someone spreads nasty rumours or threats online about someone else, the police could get involved, depending on the severity of the case.



True or false?

True: This may come under the Malicious Communication Act and depending on the severity, the police can get involved.



Cyberbullying is not against the law.

True or false?



False: In general, cyberbullying, like bullying, isn't against the law. If a child messages another saying 'I don't like your hair', this is not against the law. However, some aspects of cyberbullying, could potentially break the law, such as a death threat or harassment. Although there is no clear definition of trolling, internet trolls who write repeated, nasty comments to others can be sentenced to jail for two years. For more information, look at the bbc article explaining it www.bbc.co.uk/news/blogs-magazine-monitor-29686865



It is against the law to take someone else's identity and pretend to be them online without their consent.

True or false?

True: This refers to the Computer Misuse Act and this type of activity is fraud.







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(I agree, I disagree, It depends)



























"Just send it" Sexting

Intended learning outcomes	I'm still not sure	I'm nearly there	I've got it
I can understand the pressures on young people to send naked pictures (sexts) and know where to go for help			
I can understand the possible consequences of sending a sext including the legal consequences			
I can give advice to others to avoid sending a sext			
I'm aware that some girls may have a (more) negative experience online			

Exit slip

Things I have learned today ...

Things I already knew ...

Question I still have ...

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