

Health and Safety Awareness

Cyberbullying is on the increase and as from September 2012 Schools can be asked by Ofsted to have an E-Safety Policy in place. The NUT have a good example for Schools to use.

We need to make sure we take care to protect ourselves. Once photo's and comments are online it can be difficult to have removed. It can be very damaging, and now 1 in 5 job applications are refused due to searches done on websites like *Facebook*, *Bebo*, *Myspace* and *Little gossip*.

However if you need help then contact the Professional Helpline below.

The Professionals Online Safety Helpline...



How could your digital footprint affect your job?

Is it ok to be friends with young people on social networking sites?

What would you do if someone posted a revealing picture of you online?

Adults can't be bullied. Right?

skype us
professionalshelpline


**UK Safer
Internet
Centre**
www.saferinternet.org.uk

helpline@saferinternet.org.uk

Tel: 0844 381 4772

www.saferinternet.org.uk

We are Associate Members of The Helplines Association. This means we are working towards meeting THA's membership criteria for helplines.
<http://www.helplines.org.uk/consult-what-the-membership-means-for-you>



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The **UK Safer Internet Centre** has been funded by the European Commission to provide a Helpline for professionals who work with children and young people in the UK, specifically tackling the area of e-safety. We provide support with all aspects of digital and online issues such as misuse of social networking sites, cyber-bullying, sexting, online gaming and child protection. In addition the Helpline aims to resolve issues professionals face about themselves, such as protecting professional identity, and online harassment by others, such as pupils or parents.



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The service is contactable via email 24 hours per day, and by telephone during office opening hours 10-4, Monday to Friday. It is anticipated that all queries will be responded to within 3 hours (during the office opening hours), however to fully resolve more complex issues may take longer.

The helpline will keep customers updated throughout the process. It is primarily a signposting, mediation and advice line. If you believe a child is at immediate risk of harm, please follow normal Safeguarding procedures.

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The project is co-funded by the European Union, through the Safer Internet Plus programme
<http://ec.europa.eu/saferinternet>

Cyberbullying and the law

While there is not a specific criminal offence called cyberbullying, activities can be criminal offences under a range of different laws, including:

- The Protection from Harassment Act 1997
- The Malicious Communications Act 1988,
- Section 127 of the Communications Act 2003
- Public Order Act 1986
- The Defamation Acts of 1952 and 1996

Cyberbullying in the form of discrimination or harassment of a member of staff by another member of staff may result in a situation where the governing body of a school has breached its duties under discrimination legislation.

It is the duty of every employer to ensure, so far as reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare at work of all employees.

Incidents that are related to employment, even those taking place outside of the hours or place of work, may fall under the responsibility of the employer.