#### **Willink School**

#### **PC Tim Emery**

Safer Schools Police Officer
West Berks Police Area

# Online Safety, Cyberbullying & Social Networking



(Facebook, Text Message, BBM, gaming sites, Email, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Tumblr, Yik Yak...)

Thursday 27th November 2014

It's fair to say computers and technology have come on a fair way since I was at school







Almost one in five young people who use social networking sites suffered a very bad experience last year, research by the charity **NSPCC** shows

The report also says that cyberbullying appears to be on the increase



#### One of the headlines from just a few months ago;



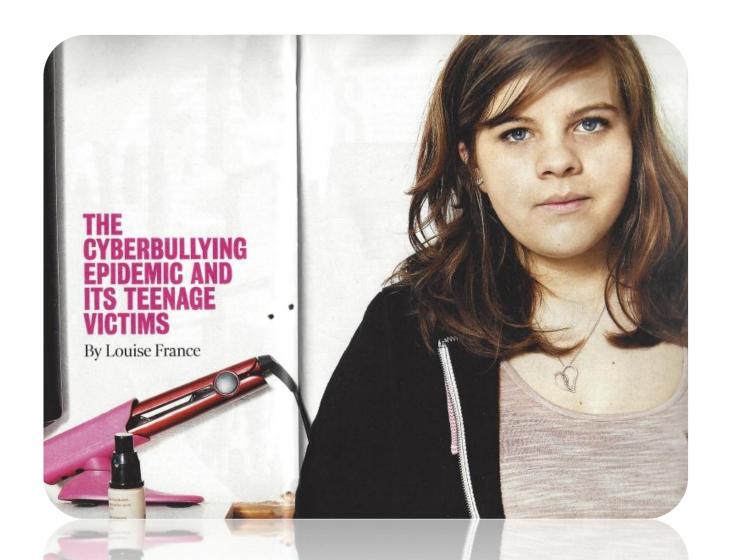




Social media 'at least half' of calls passed to front-line police – source BBC News 24<sup>th</sup> June 2014

The report also said a "large number" of users of sites like Facebook, Snapchat and Instagram were under the minimum age of 13 and a there was a marked increase in fake accounts





"I also believe that parents/teachers/family are not as supportive as they should be because they do not understand the technology and what you can do with it" - Sophie Thorne, Cyberbullying victim, Swindon 2013.

### Did you know that the words we say only account for just 7% of how we communicate and what people pick up on?



#### **Advice for kids staying safe online:**

- Never share passwords with anyone
- One account per site in your name is plenty
- Don't add people who are not your friends
- Be very careful how you share your personal information
- Don't post things that could embarrass you at a later stage
- Familarise and regularly review your privacy settings
- Report inappropriate behaviour to the site / service provider and tell an adult you can trust about it.

Most teenagers think they are being safe online and believe there are no dangers.



"It's great with Snapchat because the images all delete after 15 seconds".

In October 2014 It is announced that 200,000 images stolen from teenagers on Snapchat were leaked onto the web! The teenagers thought the images were long gone.

#### Advice for parents

- Be involved in your child's online life.
   Talk to them about what they're doing, if they know you understand they are more likely to approach you if they need support.
- Keep up-to-date with your child's development online. Be inquisitive and interested in the new gadgets and sites that your child is using. It's important that as your child learns more, so do you.

#### Advice for parents

- Set boundaries in the online world just as you would in the real world. Think about what they might see, what they share, who they talk to and how long they spend online. It is important to continue to discuss boundaries so that they evolve as your child's use of technology does.
- Know what connects to the internet and how. Nowadays even the TV connects to the internet. Your child will use all sorts of devices and gadgets; make sure you're aware of which ones can connect to the internet, such as their phone or games console

#### And there's more....

- Know about parental controls and how to set them (kids do bypass these)
- Emphasise that not everyone is who they say they are. Make sure your child knows never to meet up with someone they only know online.
- Know what to do if something goes wrong. Just as in the offline world, you want to help your child when they need it. Therefore, it is important to know when and how to report any problem.

More & more young people are falling foul of the law for the way they conduct themselves on social networking sites such as Instagram, Facebook and Snapchat





# As an example, just over the last term (Summer Term 2014), Thames Valley Police recorded a staggering 989 crimes that made mention of Facebook.

\*Facebook also state that over 8% of their accounts are fake accounts

<sup>\*</sup>It is estimated that the real figure is much higher with several offenders not realising what they had done was illegal

# A small sample of the laws that protect us online



and how they might affect you?

#### **Protection From Harassment Act 1997**

Unfortunately protection from harassment won't protect you from having to tidy your room or do your homework! Unfortunately those are just things we have to do.



Harassment is a course of conduct that the offender ought to know is wrong. So it could apply to bullying and of course this includes the internet.

#### Threats to Kill (Offences Against the Person Act 1861)

A threat to kill is a serious threat that a person believes to be real and not just joking around with friends. People can write threats on Twitter and on people's Facebook walls.



#### **Telecommunications Act 1996**

Essentially this affects text message / BBM (Blackberry Messenger) / Email. Quite often people might not say something nasty but wrongly feel it is perfectly acceptable to write nasty things in a text or email. It is not and the law protects you here.



\*Note even once deleted Police can still get evidence of what has been sent / said.



The Sexual Offences Act 2003



- 'Sexting' (sending a sexual photo of yourself or someone else via text) is against the
  law as whoever has that picture on their phone, is technically in possession of an
  indecent image of a child. If the people involved in sexting are under 18, this is illegal
  (even if the person is your boyfriend or girlfriend). This means that person can be
  prosecuted under the Sexual Offences Act 2003.
- Once these images have been taken and sent to others, control is lost of them and they can end up anywhere. They could be seen by friends and family, a future employer, or even, in some cases, end up in the possession an offender!
- This also puts that person who originally sent the images in a vulnerable position, as somebody they may or may not know now has these images and could use technology to bully, harass or even try to locate them.
- Just think if you wouldn't print and pass these images around your college or show your mum or dad, they are not appropriate to share via phone or other technologies.

#### Even the Public Order Act 1986



Just a thought...

If the Criminal Justice

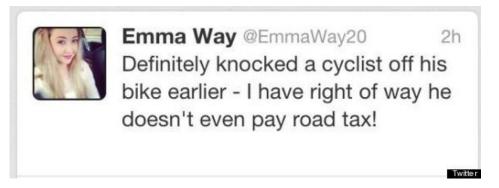
System is being used to solve your online problems, how bad have things got?



# Let's look at some true life internet stories from the UK



## The comments that come back to haunt you



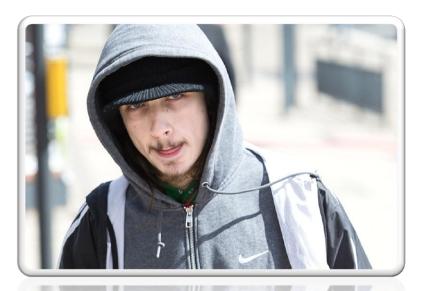
### From the end of last year



- •A motorist convicted of driving offences after tweeting about a collision with a cyclist says she has been cyber-bullied because of the post.
- Emma Way, 22, from Norfolk, was found guilty at Norwich Magistrates'
  Court of failing to stop after a collision and failing to report an accident.
  She was cleared of driving without due care and attention.
  - •Disciplined by her bosses at work for embarrassing the firm she worked for and had to make a tearful apology on television.

April / May 2014 – Ann Maguire, a teacher from Leeds was killed and some people thought it would be funny to make jokes about it online, via Twitter.

Both these men were arrested, put before the courts and are now in prison.





**Jack Newsome** 

**Robert Riley** 

Headline THIS week: a 19yr old man pleads guilty to the stabbing of Breck Bednar (14) in Essex, whom he befriended on Facebook. Breck told his Mum he was staying with friends when he went off to meet his killer.





#### ZIP IT

Keep your personal stuff private and think about what you say and do online.



#### **BLOCK IT**

Block people who send nasty messages and don't open unknown links and attachments.



#### **FLAGIT**

Flag up with someone you trust if anything upsets you or if someone asks to meet you offline.



### Homework

http://www.staysafeonline.org/

Probably the best online safety site I've seen

http://ceop.police.uk/

Also worth investing some time in