



Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Online Safety Survey 2016 - Executive Summary

Online abuse is any type of abuse that happens on the web, whether through social networks, playing online games or using mobile phones. Children and young people may experience cyberbullying, grooming, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or emotional abuse.

Children can be at risk of online abuse from people they know, as well as from strangers. Online abuse may be part of abuse that is taking place in the real world (for example bullying or grooming). Or it may be that the abuse only happens online (for example persuading children to take part in sexual activity online).

Children can feel like there is no escape from online abuse – abusers can contact them at any time of the day or night, the abuse can come into safe places like their bedrooms, and images and videos can be stored and shared with other people. – NSPCC

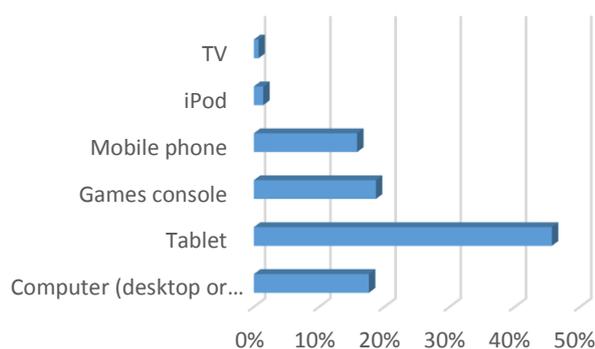
The Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board recognised that it needed to understand the views of Online Safety with children and young people in Peterborough and following the successes of the Child Sexual Exploitation consultation in 2014 and the Domestic Abuse and Healthy Relationship survey in 2015 it decided to carry out another survey which was circulated to all schools in Peterborough.

The first survey was aimed at school years 3 – 5 and a second survey aimed at school years 6 upwards. Both surveys were identical with the exception of years 6 upwards included questions around the sharing of Inappropriate Images of Children (IIOC), also known as 'Sexting'

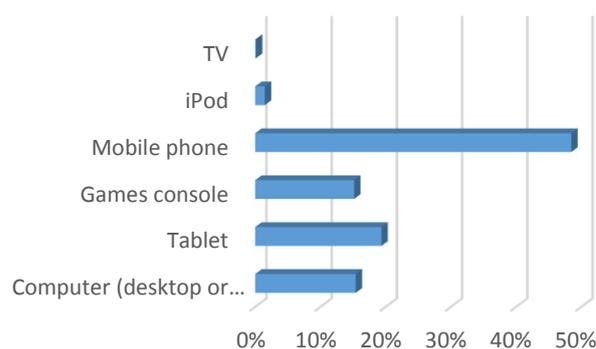
In total, there were over **1,100** responses from **30** schools across Peterborough which were completed anonymously. These amounted to **272** responses from schools years 3 – 5 and **835** responses from years 6+. The sample is balanced between boys and girls. 25% are between school years 3 to 5 (ages 7 – 10) and 75% in school years 6+ (ages 10 – 17).

Access to the internet is widespread with 83% in years 3 – 5 and 95% in years 6+ having their own device. Younger students in years 3 – 5 are more active on tablets whilst years 6+ are more active on smartphones. 49% of years 3 – 5 access the internet from a shared family room however there is a marked leap in years 6+ with 68% accessing the internet from the privacy of their bedroom. It has also been found that 22% of years 3-5 and 32% of years 6+ spend more than 6 hours per day online.

Year 3-5: Most used devices



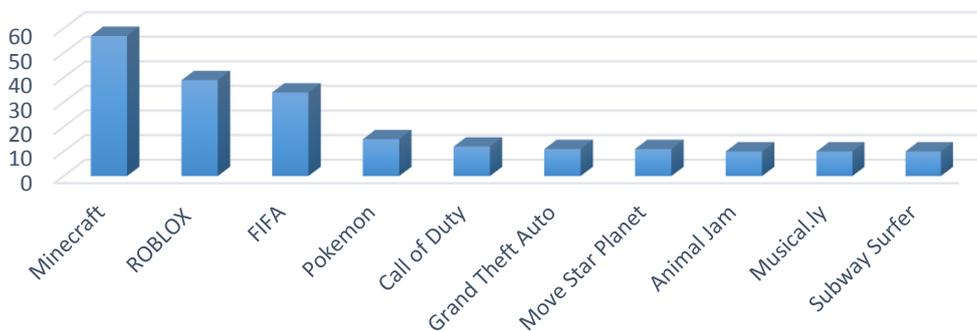
Year 6+: Most used devices



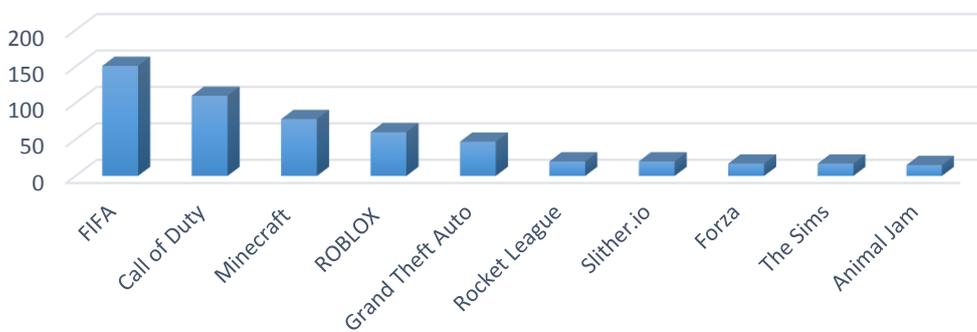
Online Gaming

75% of years 3-5 and 70% of years 6+ said they play games online. Minecraft remains the most popular game amongst the younger children in years 3-5 however games suitable for over 18s including Call of Duty and Grand Theft Auto were popular amongst all age groups.

Years 3-5: Popular games played online



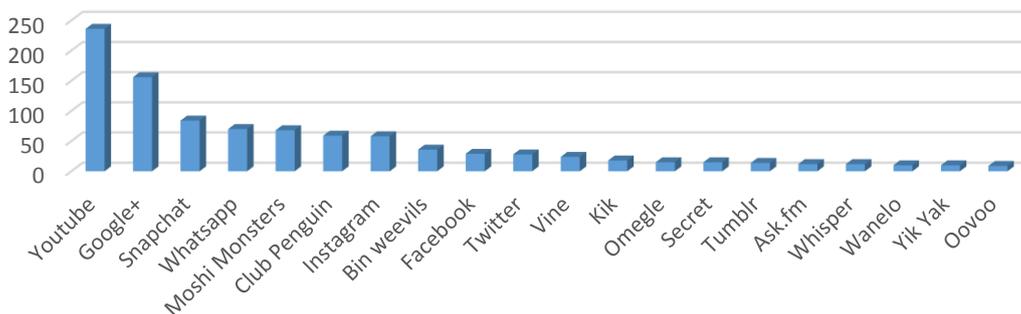
Years 6+: Popular games played online



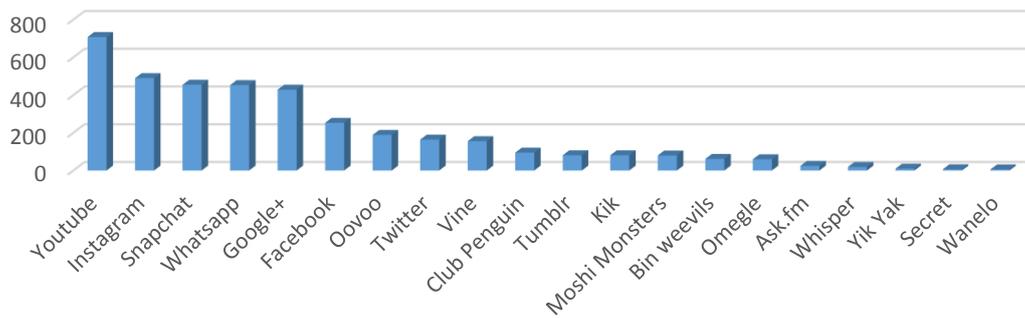
Social Networking

Although social networks have an age guide of 13 years it is notable that 65% of years 3 – 5 said they have a social network profile. YouTube remains universally popular with WhatsApp, Snapchat, Instagram and Oovoo growing in popularity across all age groups.

Year 3-5: Which Social Networking Sites do you use?



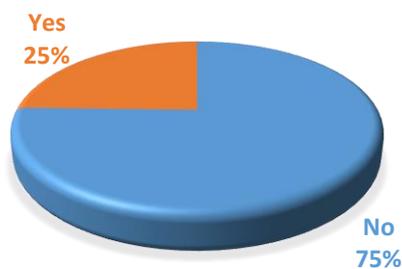
Year 6+: Which Social Networking Sites do you use?



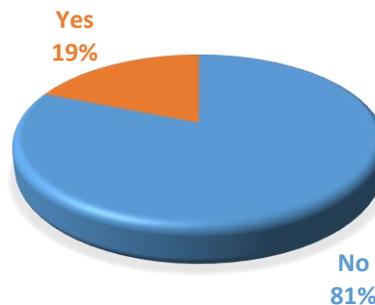
Meeting up offline

When questioned if they had made friends online with someone they did not know 25% of years 3 – 5 and 39% of years 6+ had said yes. 19% of years 3 – 5 and 25% of years 6+ had met someone in real life they only knew online.

YEAR 6+: HAVE YOU EVER MET SOMEONE IN REAL LIFE WHO YOU ONLY KNEW ONLINE?

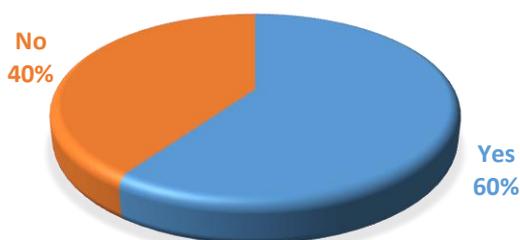


YEAR 3-5: HAVE YOU EVER MET SOMEONE IN REAL LIFE WHO YOU ONLY KNEW ONLINE?

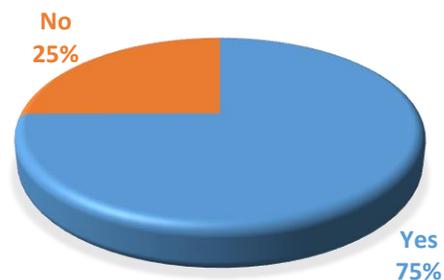


However, it appears that over 68% of years 3 – 5 and 83% of years 6+ were meeting family members or someone from their school.

YEAR 3-5: DID YOU TELL ANYONE YOU WERE MEETING THEM?



YEAR 6+: DID YOU TELL ANYONE YOU WERE MEETING THEM?

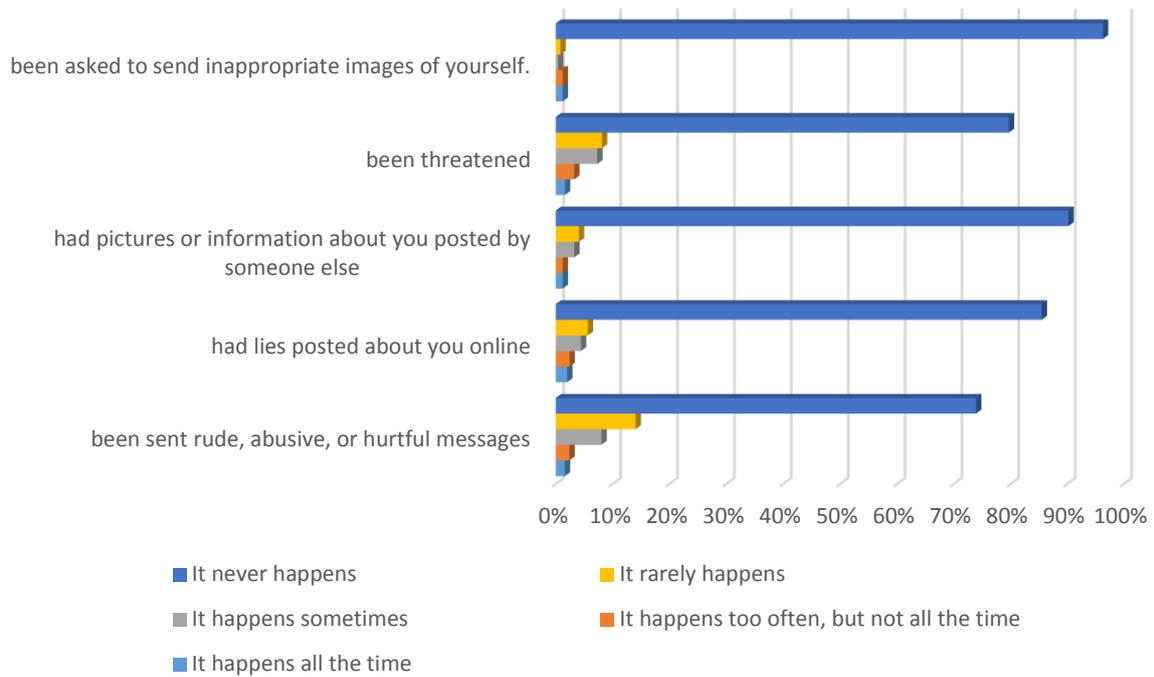


Worryingly 40% of years 3 – 5 and 25% of years 6+ did not tell anyone they were meeting someone they only knew online but half had taken someone along with them.

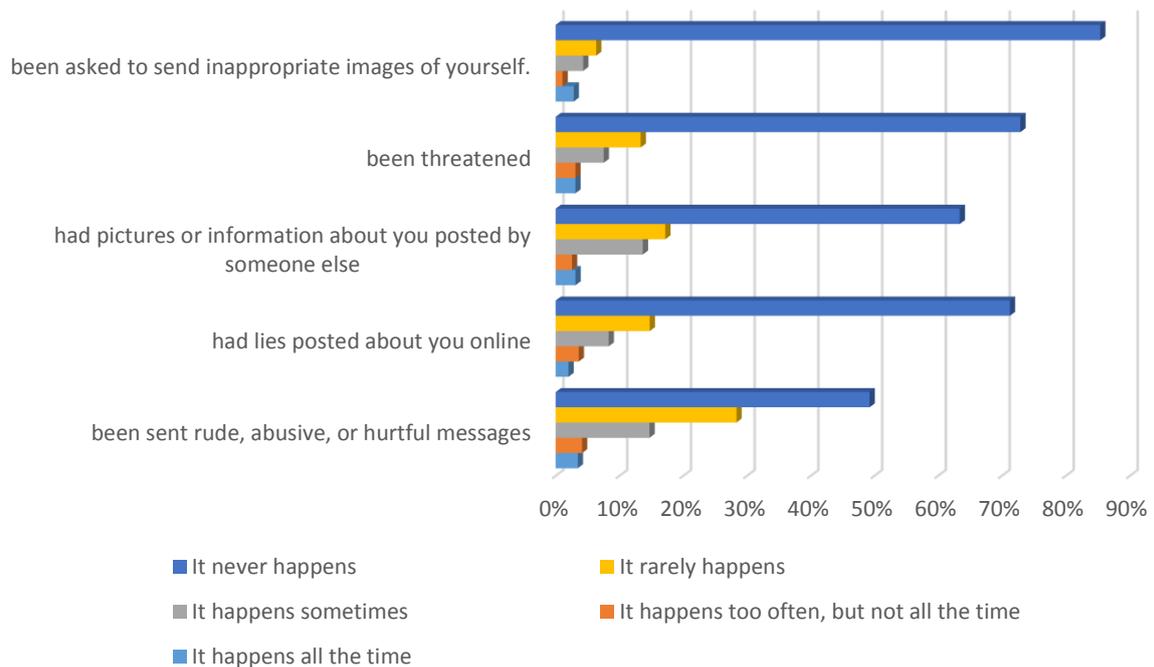
Cyberbullying

A high number of children and young people said they had not been bullied online, however 26% of Years 3 – 5 and 51% of years 6+ have been sent rude, abusive or hurtful messages. 20% of years 3 – 5 and 27% of years 6+ have been threatened. Those who have been bullied online knew how to block the senders and report them with 69% of years 3 – 5 and 70% of years 6+ saying the bullying had stopped after they reported it.

Year 3-5



Year 6+



E-safety education

72% of years 3 – 5 and 66% of years 6+ have been taught how to stay safe online, a majority having been taught through school. Over 90% from each survey felt the information was good and useful however 30% of years 3 – 5 and 49% of years 6+ did not follow what they were taught.

61% of years 3 – 5 and 24% of years 6+ said they do not use privacy settings on social networking site or apps.

73% of years 3 – 5 and 80% of years 6+ said they felt they would benefit from having lessons relating to their online lives and the law.

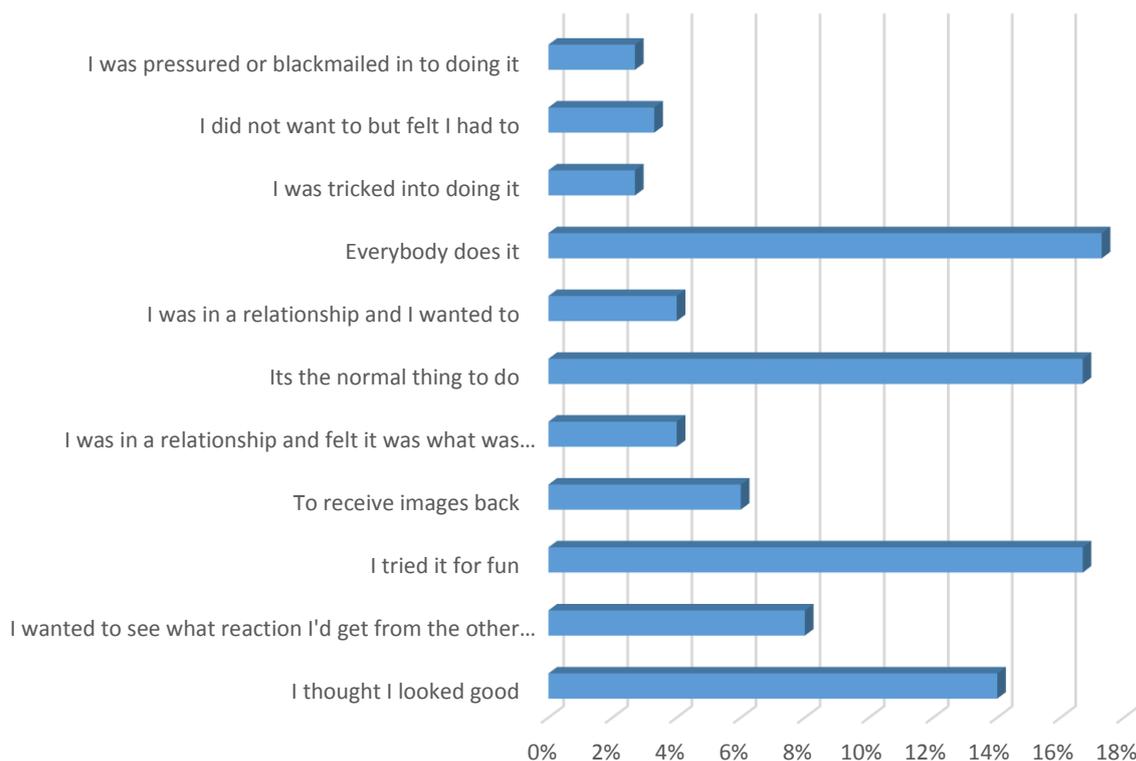
Sexting

Only 3% of ages 10 – 17 who responded to questions on sexting said they have shared intimate or inappropriate images. Most of these responses came from both boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 14 who said it was normal, everybody does it and they tried it for fun.

43% of young people in years 6+ felt sending intimate images would not impact them later in life and 31% felt sending intimate photos was safe.

91% of young people knew sending an indecent image of a child under the age of 18 was a crime however 15% did not think possessing an indecent image of a child was a crime.

Why did you do this?



In conclusion, the responses show that young people know how to stay safe online and how to report cyberbullying however there were a high number of children and young people who do not always follow this.

There needs to be an emphasis to children and young people that not everyone online may be who they appear to be, and children and young people who use social networking sites should only make friends with people who they know and trust and to remind them of online stranger danger.

Despite the low number of young people admitting to sharing intimate or inappropriate images, young people need to be aware of the possible dangers by sending these images both to themselves now and in the future.