



**Title:** Social Media: Netiquette

**Level:** Third

**Code:** 3.9.2

### Links to Curriculum for Excellence

#### Experiences/Outcomes

- I recognise that power can exist within relationships and can be used positively as well as negatively. HWB 3-45a
- I am developing skills for making decisions about my relationships and sexual behaviour. I am able to apply these to situations that may be challenging or difficult. HWB 3-46c
- I reflect on how my attitudes, beliefs, values and morality can influence my decisions about friendships, relationships and sexual behaviour. HWB 3-46a

#### Benchmarks

- Explains the impact an imbalance of power can have on relationships, including sexual relationships, for example, consent, coercion, responsibility for actions and decisions.
- Demonstrates the skills needed to challenge stereotypical images in the media, including social media, for example, confidence, judgement.

### About this activity

There is much in this Curriculum for Excellence level about online behaviour and use of social media. This activity articulates the need for agreed standards of behaviour online.

### Resources to support this activity

- Slides: Who invented the internet? + Netiquette 10 tips about how to behave online
- Film: (2 minutes 9 seconds) Trouser boy: <https://vimeo.com/231619730>

### Activity

1. Start with an explanation, in this session you will be thinking about how we behave online. The word people use is *netiquette*, this is short for network etiquette, and is the set of rules that determines how to properly communicate and browse the web. On the whiteboard:

**Netiquette, the set of rules about how we behave online.**

2. Working in small groups, ask the young people to have a conversation and note down between 5 and 10 things that people do online that they shouldn't do.
3. Report back and discuss – identify common themes from the responses.
4. Ask the group – do you know who invented the internet and when? Use this slide:

#### **Who invented the internet?**

Lots of people had ideas that came together but...

Vincent Cerf and Robert Kahn were writing about the idea in 1973

The www that we know now was introduced in 1991 by Tim Berners-Lee

The first website was created in 1991

5. Explain that when these people invented the internet they couldn't imagine how we would use it today. So, they didn't invent any rules about it. They just wanted it to be free and open to everyone. Acknowledge the earlier points raised by the young people about things that people do online they shouldn't. With that in mind their challenge is to work together to write rules for people when they are using the internet and social media – netiquette. Start them in pairs, then move to a 4 and edit and re-draft. They can identify up to 10 rules.
6. Have each group share their rules. Discuss: Would anyone like to ask another group to explain something more? Are there common or shared ideas?
7. Share the list/slide, drawn up from many different sources on the internet. Read, discuss, is there anything missing compared to the group's own ideas?

#### **Netiquette – 10 tips about how to behave online**

1. Don't post something that will hurt someone.
  2. If you wouldn't like it, don't do it.
  3. Be the same person you are in real life.
  4. Don't post something you would be worried or embarrassed your family might see.
  5. Make yourself look good on line. Pay attention. Be your best self.
  6. Don't fuel the fire: if someone posts something negative about you, ignore it. (If you get back with a mean thing it will only get worse).
  7. Encourage and help your friends to be calm online.
  8. If someone makes a mistake online, tell them, try forgiving them.
  9. Don't share private information, you never know who's there.
  10. If something online upsets you, talk to someone you trust and who will be supportive.
8. Emphasise that of course there are no written rules about this, its up to us all to be the best person we can be online, just like in all aspects of life.
  9. To end here's an example, in a film made by young people, about how people might behave and the consequences of not following some rules about how we behave online.  
Trouser boy: <https://vimeo.com/231619730>
  10. Have some discussion, reactions to the film.

### Connecting with home

If it is possible to connect with a text message or short email to parents/carers the following short message could go home:

*At school we are thinking about how we behave online. This article is good, it will give you some ideas about speaking to your child.*

<http://www.childnet.com/blog/online-etiquette-or-netiquette-the-dos-and-donts-of-online-communication->

### Further learning activities are available that connect to this RSHP curriculum content

- 3.9.1 Me online/How we use social media
- 3.9.3 Sending and sharing images

### Practitioner Notes