

4.4.2 Gender: Sexual Harassment Scenarios

Scenario 1

The science teacher has moved everybody around in the lab so that no-one can sit with their friends. He has mixed boys and girls up too. Mia has been told to sit next to Jack. They sit at the back of the class and the teacher can't always see what's going on. Every time Mia arrives at her seat Jack has his phone on and shows her pornographic pictures. During the class he brushes up against her. She has told her friend in the class, but they are both a bit frightened of Jack.

- Is this sexual harassment?
- What could be done?
- What might make this difficult to handle?
- What needs to be done and by whom?

Scenario 2

Joe is new in school. Whenever he walks past a big group of girls in his year they whistle at him and tell him he's gorgeous, ask him if he has a girlfriend, and make jokes about how they'd go out with him. At first Joe was pleased they had noticed him, but it's getting embarrassing. He has started to avoid parts of the school where they might be.

- Is this sexual harassment?
- What could be done?
- What might make this difficult to handle?
- What needs to be done and by whom?

Scenario 3

Ms. Jackson is a young teacher in the school. Some of the boys in the class talk loud enough so that she'll hear them, saying that they fancy her, they make comments about her body. There's a rumour going around that these boys have a bet about who can be first to take a picture up Ms. Jackson's skirt.

- Is this sexual harassment?
- What could be done?
- What might make this difficult to handle?
- What needs to be done and by whom?