

## Quick Quiz...

What percentage of teens 15 years and over have shared a nude or sexual photo of themselves (2020 CyberSurvey)?

When asked why teens send nudes \_\_\_\_\_% said they did it for fun (2020 CyberSurvey)

\_\_\_\_\_ are more likely to feel 'it is an expected part of being in a relationship'- boys or girls?

What % of teenage sexters say they haven't faced any consequences, leading them to disbelieve traditional online safety advice?

What % of 10–15-year-olds accepted a friend request from someone they didn't know (March 2020)?

What % of 10-15 years olds have sent a photo or video of themselves to someone they have never met in person?





Refresh : What is  
consent?

Consent must be .....FRIES

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# CONSENT



**F**reely Given

**R**eversible

**I**nformed

**E**nthusiastic

**S**pecific

Consent is:

- **Freely given.** Doing something sexual with someone is a decision that should be made without pressure, force, manipulation, or while drunk or high.
- **Reversible.** Anyone can change their mind about what they want to do, at any time. Even if you've done it before or are in the middle of having sex.
- **Informed.** Be honest. For example, if someone says they'll use a condom and then they don't, that's not consent.
- **Enthusiastic.** If someone isn't excited, or really into it, that's not consent.
- **Specific.** Saying yes to one thing (like going to the bedroom to make out) doesn't mean they've said yes to others (like oral sex).



# What is Sexting/ sending nudes and what do I need to know?

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What is sexting?  
What does the law say?  
What should I do if.....?



# What do we know? Discuss.....

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What is 'sexting'?

Why do people send nude/ semi-nude pictures?

What are the risks?

What does the law say?

# What is sexting and sending nudes?

**Sexting:** sending, receiving, or forwarding sexually explicit messages, photographs or images, usually between mobile phones but could be any digital device.

**Sexting:** Sexting is the exchanging of sexually explicit messages, or photos (also known as nudes). Sending nudes specifically refers to sending naked/semi-naked photos or videos of yourself to someone else.



"In the olden days....."

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It isn't that long ago that people took a camera, an actual camera to special occasions and on holiday. Now most people carry cameras all the time- mobile phones. Photos can be a great way to store memories and show your friends and family what you've been up to. But remember, it can be really hard, sometimes impossible, to delete photos from other people's mobiles. Once you've shared something you've lost control of it- it can be copied, shared and even edited. If you send an embarrassing photo it could end up anywhere. Think about whether you'd want your Mum, Gran or future employer to see it? Think before sending it.



# SEXTING

Sexting (or sending nudes) describes sending explicit images or videos to someone else. This doesn't have to be via text - this could be via any social media communication platform e.g. Snapchat and TikTok.

## We should learn about sexting because...

It's so easy to do, and the consequences can be huge. Discussions need to be had around how to navigate feeling pressured to send pictures as well as how it can make people feel when asked for them. Additionally, the negative impact of circulating images as a form of bullying, manipulation or revenge can be life-changing for everyone involved.

## It's important that young people know that:

1. It is against the law to take, possess and / or send explicit content of people under the age of 18. These images count as child pornography. Being involved in any way is against the law and has severe consequences.
2. Once the images are sent, the person loses control of them and they can be on the internet forever. Once an image is on the internet it can be copied, screenshotted and distributed without a person's control. People might do this as a form of bullying, revenge or to make money. The images or videos can eventually end up on porn sites .
3. Anonymising images can minimise damage. This means not including faces, defining features such as tattoos or any distinctive backgrounds.

Why should we learn about  
sexting?

# Scenario

Ella is 14. She's been going out with Alex for two weeks. He's 15. Alex is a nice lad, pays her lots of attention, is kind to her, polite to her parents and bought Ella her favourite chocolates yesterday.

Alex has just sent Ella a picture of himself, posing, with his shirt off. He's sent a cheeky text with it:

'Feel free to return the favour, babe.'

What does Alex mean by 'return the favour'? Is this a good idea?

Let's say Ella does return the favour and the couple split up. Describe what the consequences could be.

## **Challenge:**

Explain one long term and one short term impact of putting your personal pictures and information in someone else's hands.



# Ally's Story

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Watch the clip and talk through the questions below.

1. What was the biggest mistake of Ally's life?
2. What bargain did Ally's ex-boyfriend try and make with her?
3. What happened to Ally at the cheerleading competition?
4. How long do many teenagers unrealistically think they will be with their boyfriend or girlfriend for?
5. What *isn't* sexting?
6. What *is* sexting?
7. Why did Ally's boyfriend asking her for the picture make her feel better in the short term?
8. What percentage of recipients forward the image on? (This doesn't even include just showing people on the phone!)



## Sexting and Consent....

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As with anything sexual, consent is really important. Some people will find sexting fun. Some won't. No-one should ever be pressured into doing something sexual they don't want to do. [This goes for sexting and sending nudes too.](#)

It doesn't matter if you're in a relationship with that person, or if you've had sex with that person, you don't have to send anything. It can feel really hard to say no to someone, especially if you have feelings for them.



# Sexting and the law

We will now read the 'Sexting and the Law' information sheet together as a class.

Then we'll discuss the following:

- Is there anything that surprises you about this information? Why?
- *'Remember – the legal consent age for sex is 16. The consent age for sharing indecent images of yourself is actually 18.'*

Why do you think this is the case? Discuss for two minutes then explain in your books. Be ready to feed back.

What does the law say about 'sexting'?

If it's sexually explicit text/chat between children (aged under 18):

'There may be a possible legal offence, but in these cases the detail of the text/chat should be considered. General sexual references would not necessarily constitute an offence but text/chat that incites a child to engage in sexual activity or to make or distribute sexual images of themselves or another child should be reported to local police for further guidance.'

*Sexting and the Law - Police guide*

In other words, talking about body parts is not illegal, but persuading another under 18 to share images of those body parts may be. The ultimate decision on this is down to the police.

If it's sexually explicit text/chat between an adult (18+) and a child (under 18), including requests for pictures of a sexual nature:

'There may be a possible offence, and you should contact your local police station for further guidance. Do not delete or alter any material as it may be needed for evidence.'

*Sexting and the Law - Police guide*

In other words, if an over 18 is contacting an under 18 with sexy chat, even if they are not asking for pictures yet, they could be committing an offence. Punishments can include for the worst cases, jail terms and being put on the sex-offenders register.

What if a child (under 18 years of age) takes a sexually explicit image of themselves?

'That child has committed an offence, by making and possessing that image. If that child then sends the image to another person then the child has committed a further offence of distributing the image and the person who receives the image will also be liable for an offence of possessing the image.'

*Sexting and the Law - Police guide*

In other words, if you are under 18 and you take a naked pic of yourself, you are creating an indecent image of a child! If you then share this, you are sharing an indecent image of a child. Yes, even if it is yourself! It's still a criminal offence.

What if an adult sends a child a sexually explicit picture of themselves?

This is a criminal offence and should be reported to the police. It doesn't matter if the child intended to receive the image or not.

**Remember - the legal consent age for sex is 16. The consent age for sharing indecent images of yourself is actually 18.**



# Case studies

Rob is 13. His football coach has been really helpful trying to get him into Manchester United Youth Academy. One evening, out of the blue, Rob's coach messages him with a naked image of himself, saying, 'keep training if you want a body like this.'

**Has a criminal offense been committed?  
Why/why not?**

Cara is 16. Cara has been seeing Tom (18) for a year. Tom has seen Cara naked before. They have a sexually intimate, loving relationship. Tom texts Cara asking for a pic of her body, because he's missing her.

**What should the recipient do?  
(the person who received the image)**

Tamara is 18. She is a model for an underwear catalogue. Her boss has said in an email that if she poses topless for him, he will pay her twice as much. Tamara does this, but instantly regrets it. She hopes she can get him arrested for inciting her to do so.

**Challenge:  
What might the consequences be?**



## Be clear.....

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Creating or sharing naked/ semi-nude photos of anyone under the age of 18 years old is illegal, even if the person doing so is under 18 years old

You need to know that even though the age for sexual consent is 16 years old, sending sexual imagery of anyone under 18 is illegal

The law that makes it illegal to take or share indecent images of children was created to protect young people from sexual abuse. It was not intended to make children into criminals. Nonetheless, where police have been notified, the incident will be listed as a 'crime' and the young person involved will be a 'suspect'



Discussion:  
how can  
you navigate  
feeling  
pressured to  
send pictures?

Talk in your groups

1. If you are asked to send a nude or semi-nude photo, what could you say if you didn't want to send it?
2. What are the risks of saying 'no'?
3. How do the risks compare with the risks of saying 'yes'?
4. How might you feel if you sent it?
5. Who or what might you talk to/ turn to for support in your decision-making process?
6. Do you know the story of Roxy Longworth? Use your devices to start finding out about this story.
7. Do you know the story of Jessica Davies? Use your devices to start finding out about this story.



## Minimise Damage

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If you take and share nudes/ semi-nudes try to minimise damage IF they get shared.

Think about 'ways to anonymise images' e.g not including faces, defining features, backgrounds etc.



And finally.....

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[CEOP: ThinkUKnow](#)



# What to do if your nude is shared around?

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This is a form of [image-based sexual abuse \(also known as 'revenge porn'\)](#). Other examples are:

- Someone taking a naked/semi-naked photo or video of someone else without their knowing or their consent
- Uploading a naked/semi-naked photo or video online without that person's consent
- Sharing a naked/semi-naked photo or video with other people, via messages or in-person

If someone experiences image-based sexual abuse, they are never to blame. This is a horrible form of abuse, and anyone experiencing it deserves kindness, empathy, and support to get through it and build their self-esteem back up.

If this happens to you, please ask for help (see next slide). You don't have to deal with this alone.



# Getting Help.....

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Sometimes knowing that it's illegal to send nudes under the age of 18 means that young people don't seek help when something goes wrong. **But the law is there to protect children and young people, not to punish them.** It's really important that, if something goes wrong and your nude is shared without your consent, you know there's help and support for you. You're not the one in the wrong, the person who shared/uploaded your image without your consent is.

It can sometimes feel difficult to talk to adults about this, like parents/carers and teachers. If that's the case, there's lots of support online. These organisations support young people in lots of different difficult situations, like image-based sexual abuse, and they'll be able to help.

[Childline](#) – a helpline and one-to-one counsellor chats to support you

[The Internet Watch Foundation](#) – anonymously report any images that are posted online

[CEOP](#) – make a report if you've experienced any online sexual abuse (including image abuse)

Your tutor or another trusted adult at school eg. Student Welfare

Your parents or other family member