

Cyber bullying

Year Group 8

Experience Home

24 Alcorn Close, Sutton, SM3 9PX

T: 020 8296 1287, F: 020 8296 1284

E: SLC@sutton.gov.uk, W: suttonlifecentre.org

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Setting the scene...

My name's Zoe. *You're in my bedroom and this is my story – something that happened to me a year ago, when I was 14. It all started on Friend-Space a year ago. This is my page – that's what I looked like last year, back then I liked shopping and chocolate. Not much has changed! Vinnie was my boyfriend then. Well, sort of as we met online. He's 19, but we got on really well. He sent me a new mobile phone so I could text and send him photos too. This is my story.*

Text messages from the previous year

Vin Matt says you don't want to be my girlfriend.

Zoe Of course I want to be your girlfriend.

Vin Then you'd send me some pictures of you.

Zoe I do already.

Vin You know what I mean. Come on. Please.

Zoe *At first I thought he was just messing about, but then he just kept on...*

Vin text message I need pictures of Zoe... bad.

Zoe *A lot of my friends thought he was too old for me but I figured they were just jealous of all the stuff he got me.*

Text messages

Vin We're soul mates. Why don't you send me those pictures?

Zoe I'm shy.

Vin Then leave your bra on. It's only like on a beach, please!

Zoe Promise not to show anyone?

Vin For my eyes only!

Zoe Okay, tomorrow.

Zoe *Of course I'd been told hundreds of times – be careful what you say – or send over the internet, but he was my boyfriend.*

Vin text message The pictures have arrived! (WOLF WHISTLES)

Zoe *I wished I hadn't shown him. Once I'd sent the first one, things got worse...*

Text messages

Vin Nice.

Zoe Yeah?

Vin But I need to see more of my girl.

Zoe I can't.

Vin Then I will send your pictures to Matt in your class. You know I can...

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Setting the scene continued...

Zoe Ha ha!

Vin I mean it. This time I just want to see all of you.

Zoe He was serious and like an idiot, I did what he wanted. I think it's because I got scared and I didn't know how to stop him. It's kind of weird, but my problem – which started because of the internet, also ended thanks to the internet. I was googling what to do and I found this site called Cyber-mentors where you get advice without revealing who you are.

My Cyber-mentor let me know that what he was doing was against the law, and gave me the confidence to tell a friend. My friend went along with me to the police. They went to his house, arrested him and took his computer as evidence...

Lots of other teenagers fall into the same trap as I did every week. Now I'm thinking of becoming a Cyber-mentor to help others like me!

So like all good stories, my one has a happy ending. It's even got a message too – think before you click.

What do you think...

Would you send images in the same situation?

Zoe says _

Vinnie says _
We r soulmates :)
Y don't U send me those pix?



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Cyber bullying lesson plan

1 Why is cyber bullying so difficult to deal with?

- In small groups discuss the key differences between bullying and cyber bullying.
- Feed back to the main group three key points from your discussion.

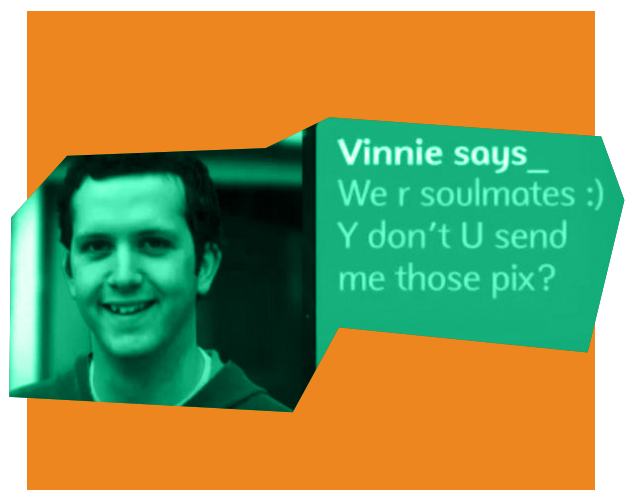
2 Design a cyber safety code for a ten year old to use with their mobile phone.

- Divide into groups of three to design the safety code.
- Ask the students to consider key issues such as the format, suitability and key messages of the safety code.
- Each group presents their design to the whole class.

3 What do you need to consider to keep safe on the internet?

- Conduct a whole class review of internet safety.
- Use the CEOP website to show an age appropriate clip: www.ceop.gov.uk

4 Plenary



approximately 1 hour