



STOP



Step Up,
Speak Up!

Put an end to online sexual harassment

Ofsted's report into sexual abuse in schools

- The review included visits to schools and colleges all over the UK and over 900 children and young people were spoken to about the prevalence of peer-on-peer sexual harassment and sexual violence, including online, in their lives and the lives of their peers.
- They quickly realised how prevalent sexual harassment and online sexual abuse are for children and young people. They summarised that it is concerning that for some children, incidents are so commonplace that they see no point in reporting them.

Ofsted's report into sexual abuse in schools

- Online sexual abuse, such as being sent unsolicited explicit sexual material and being pressured to send nude pictures, are much more prevalent than adults realise. For example, nearly 90% of girls, and nearly 50% of boys, said being sent explicit pictures or videos of things they did not want to see happens 'a lot' or 'sometimes' to them or their peers.
- Children and young people said sexual harassment occurs so frequently that it has become 'commonplace'. For example, 92% of girls, and 74% of boys, said sexist name-calling happens 'a lot' or 'sometimes' to them or their peers. The frequency of these harmful sexual behaviours means that some children and young people consider them normal.
- When children and young people were asked where sexual violence occurred, they typically talked about unsupervised spaces outside of school, such as parties or parks without adults present.

Who can help?



Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)



Mr Clarke

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads



Miss Lewis



Mrs Tivnen



Miss Evans



Miss Baldwin



Mr Donnelly

Who to go to- Safeguarding



- Miss Baldwin/ Miss Milburn (Y7)
- Mrs Palmer/ Miss Langton (Y8)
- Mrs Woodhams/ Miss Peplow (Y9)
- Miss Evans/ Mrs Bennett (Y10)
- Mrs Wood/ Miss Rowell (Y11)
- Miss Baldwin- Head of Lower School
- Miss Evans- Head of Upper School
- Mrs Burgess (Y12)
- Mrs Richardson (Y13)
- Mrs Tivnen- Head of 6th Form
- Form tutor
- Subject teacher
- Caroline or Grace- School counsellors
- Maria- School Chaplain
- Miss Lewis
- Mr Clarke

Sexual Harassment- Unwelcomed and unwanted attention, sexual advances and intimidating behaviour with sexual intent. Includes sexist slurs, inappropriate touching, and sharing of inappropriate images or videos without consent. Public sexual harassment (PSH) is sexual harassment that occurs in public spaces, and can happen both in person and online. PSH is the most common form of violence against women and girls.

Sexual Assault- An act that is carried out without the victim's active consent. This means they didn't agree to it. And in the UK, you cannot give informed consent if you are under 16, but we'll come on to that later on. A form of sexual violence, and can include rape or other sexual offenses, such as groping, forced kissing and child sexual abuse. Sexual assault can happen to anyone, though it disproportionately affects women.

Online Sexual Harassment



- By far the most common place for young people to experience sexual harassment is online, so it's important that we realise what forms this can take and what it look likes online.
- **What is online sexual harassment-** Any unwanted sexual behaviour that occurs online. It happens in many forms (images, videos, posts, messages). It can be public or private. It can happen to anyone.

Bullying

Bullying someone for online behaviour that is outside of common gender stereotypes e.g. bullying a boy for watching a make-up tutorial video, or a girl for using a profile picture showing her short haircut.

Body shaming

Embarrassing someone for the way their body looks e.g. mean comments on a photo about someone's body shape, particularly if it seems to target or criticise perceived attractiveness.

Pornography

Sharing online pornography, whether as a link or image, because it was seen by the sender as 'funny'.

'Upskirting'

Taking photos underneath someone's clothes, without their knowledge e.g. taking a photo up someone's shorts on the school bus, or of someone getting changed at a sleepover.

What does online sexual harassment look like?

Homophobic language

Using offensive homophobic language e.g. calling someone 'gay' to mark them out as 'other' in some way.

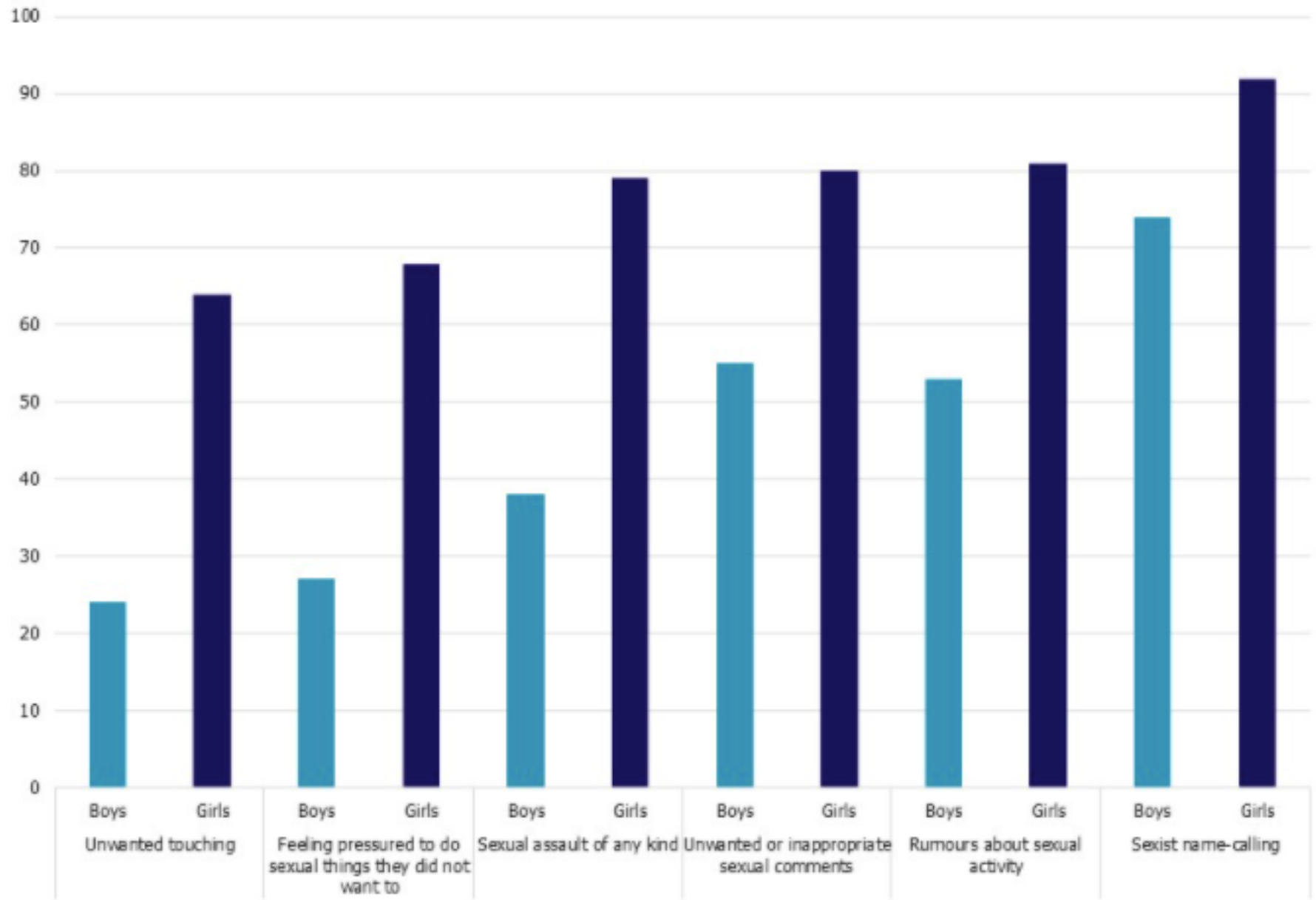
Photo editing

Editing photos to make them sexual or gendered e.g. adding emojis on a photo that are meant to represent sexual body parts.

'Sexting'

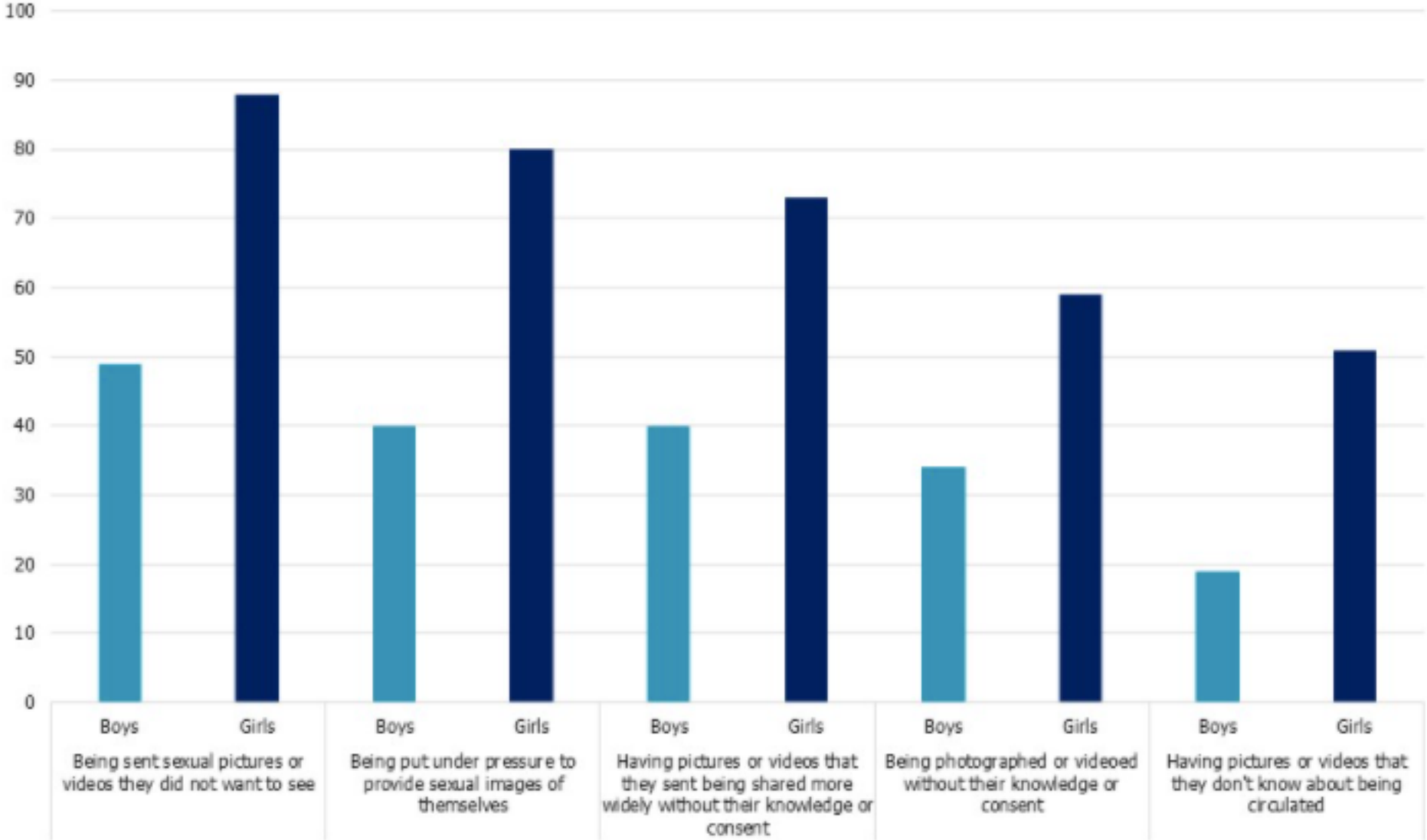
Sending a nude or nearly nude image of a peer to others.

Figure 2. These things happen ‘a lot’ or ‘sometimes’ between people my age (%)



*Source: Ofsted June 2021
(Review of sexual abuse in
schools and colleges)*

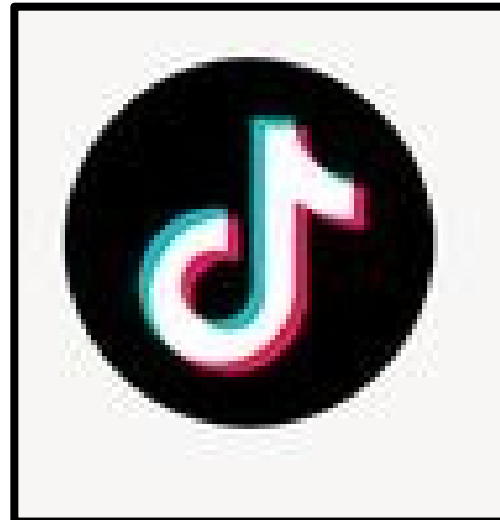
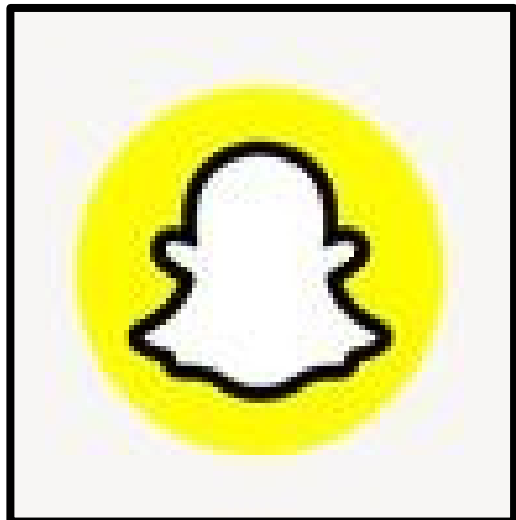
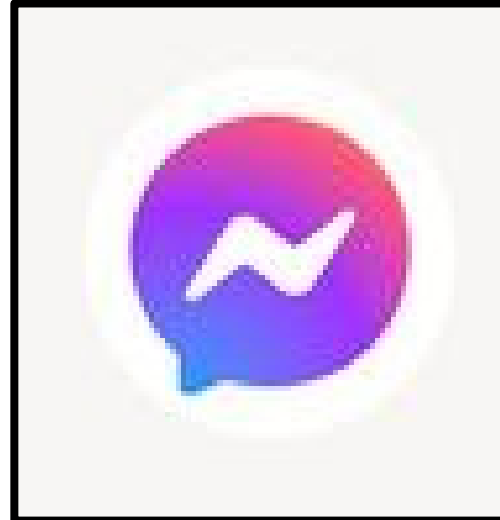
Figure 3. These things happen ‘a lot’ or ‘sometimes’ between people my age (%)



Source: Ofsted June 2021 (Review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges)

Social media platforms- all have minimum age requirements

Report (profiles/ messages/ images to the platform so they can be removed





What does the law say?



- **Protection of Children Act 1978:** To take, share or possess a nude or sexually explicit photo of someone under 18 is illegal.
- **Malicious Communications Act 2003:** Sending any form of message, including online, that is extremely offensive, obscene, threatening or indecent can break the law if sent on purpose
- **Computer Misuse 1990-** It can be illegal to impersonate or steal someone's identity online.

Even if it doesn't break the law,
If it's unwanted, then it's unacceptable.

How can I help?



- Be there for anyone who is affected
- Support your friends and peers
- Encourage and help report it
- Call-out unwelcome behaviour
- Report it when you see it online

What happens
when you
report in
school?

What happens when I report something like this?



Things that WILL happen:

- Take the issue seriously and believe you
- Respect your privacy and your choices
- Discuss ways in which we can support you
- Discuss ways in which we can stop the behaviour
- Speak to you before informing anyone else
- Support you
- Listen and reassure you
- Stop it from happening/getting worse

Things that WON'T happen:

- Talk about the incident with other staff
- Blame you or think it is your fault
- Demand access to your social media accounts
- Make you close your social media accounts
- Think that it is a joke
- Use you as an example for other students
- You won't be in trouble

DfE Guidance- online support



https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/report/talking-to-your-child-about-online-sexual-harassment-a-guide-for-parents/?utm_source=16%20December%202021%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19

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