

# Cyberbullying & the Law

Thames Valley Police

# Aims

- ▶ Understand what bullying and cyberbullying is
- ▶ Understand what makes communication unkind
- ▶ Understand how this could make others feel
- ▶ Know what the law is relating to bullying



# Social media

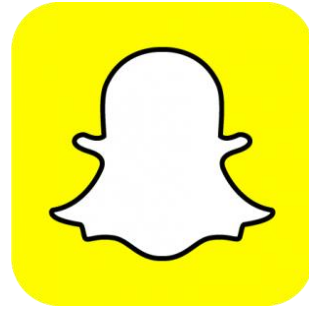
## Pros

- ▶ Allows us to keep in touch with people who live far away
- ▶ Can help us learn
- ▶ Allows us to ask for help & support or get up to date information
- ▶ Helps us share ideas, music or art
- ▶ Creates awareness
- ▶ Builds communities

## Cons

- ▶ Strangers contacting you
- ▶ Personal information being shared
- ▶ Your digital footprint - everything you post/share can be traced!
- ▶ People sending inappropriate images
- ▶ **Cyberbullying (including being unkind, creating fake accounts)**

# Social media



power  
imbalance

hurtful

*Using the internet or a mobile phone to be unkind to others, e.g.*

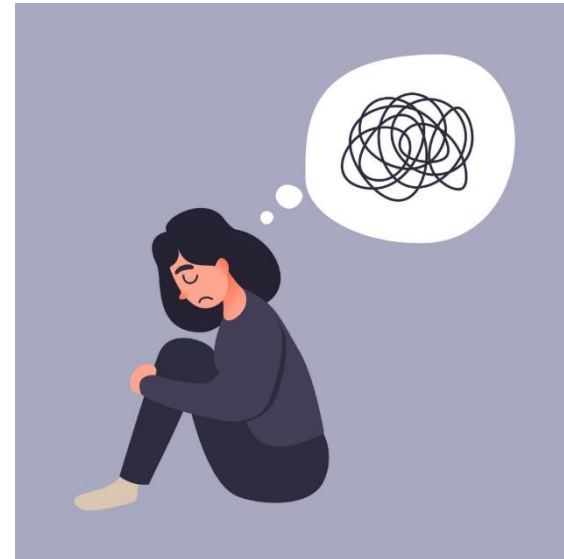
- sending mean emails or text messages*
- posting nasty comments*
- posting embarrassing pictures*

intentional

repetitive

# What effect could this have?

- ▶ Self esteem
- ▶ Confidence
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Mental health
- ▶ Difficulty eating or sleeping
- ▶ Lose interest in hobbies
- ▶ Isolation



# The law

## Malicious Communications Act

It is an offence to send any form of communication to cause the person receiving it to feel upset, offended or anxious; includes threats and information which the sender knows is not true.

# How will this affect your life?



# Consequences

Not being able to go to certain countries...

**Go to prison..**

**Harder to get into University...**

*Things like insurance (when they are older) will be more expensive...*

*Having conditions set against them...*

**Harder to get a good job...**

**Lose family and friends...**

# QUESTIONS

The word "QUESTIONS" is rendered in a bold, white, sans-serif font with a slight 3D effect. It is the central focus, surrounded by a chaotic and vibrant collection of question marks. These question marks vary in color, including shades of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, and pink. They also vary in size and shape, appearing as circles, squares, and rectangles. The overall composition is dynamic and visually busy, set against a clean white background with a blue geometric pattern on the right side.