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A Cross-National, Co-Participatory Exploration of Cyberbullying,
Young People And Socio-Economic Disadvantage.

Trinity Church of England School



Bully Busters

Introduction and Aims

Bully Busters is an 8 member team from Year 9 focused on helping prevent cyberbullying, and making it safer for young people to be online.

Over the course of seven weeks, our quality circle sessions have looked at findings from online surveys and focus groups regarding various Social Network Providers (SNPs).

We have used these findings to develop recommendations for the SNPs of the four most commonly used apps - Snapchat, Instagram, YouTube, and WhatsApp.

What is Cyberbullying?

Cyberbullying is the use of electronic communication to bully a person, typically by sending messages of an intimidating or threatening nature. It happens on many social networks, as well as within online games such as Fortnite.

Millions of children across the UK and the rest of the world are currently active on social networks, but often do not tell anyone if they are being cyberbullied. Without an outlet to speak up about potential abuse, an individual's mental and physical health can be put at risk.

Some of the negative effects of being Cyberbullied can include:

- Suicide
- Changes in Personality
- Low Self-Esteem
- Losing Weight
- Changing Appearance To Try And Fit In

The Bully Busters Team

- Shanice Williams
- Jordan Webster
- Elliot Sloman
- Steliyana Miteva
- Samuel Hazeldine
- Hiritik Guru
- Anjali Manku
- Precious Alaba

ANTI-BULLYING SQUAD



Membership Rules

- Treat Others Equally
- No Rudeness
- No Racial Abuse
- No Prejudice
- Stay Positive
- No Vicious Criticism
- Respect Opinions
- Don't Interrupt
- Stay Confident

Cyberbullying in the Future

In 10 years, cyberbullying could escalate, diminish, or even completely vanish depending on if we come up with a solution and if we all work together and also depending on what new electrical products are invented.

As children, we would love for cyberbullying to be put to an end, but we need the help and assistance of adults, especially SNPs.

Our hope is that SNPs will listen to the views and recommendations set out in this publication, and work with us to put a stop to cyberbullying, or at least decrease it to a safe amount.

Social Network Providers - Do you really want innocent people to die because of your profession?

Our Recommendations

Below we have outlined the existing safety features currently in place on the most popular social networks, as well as our recommendations for how they can be improved.

Snapchat

Current Security Features

- Developer support if you think someone has gained access to your account
- Privacy Policy
- No one under 13 is allowed an account
- You can hide your location
- You can report something you don't want to see
- You can block strangers and abusers



Security Feature Recommendations

- Warnings before you click on a video
- Verification email to identify genuine users
- Warning if you want to send an image
- Notifications when your location is visible
- 48 hour ban if you are reported for violating the terms of service
- You should be able to choose who follows your snaps/stories

Instagram

Current Security Features

- You cannot access Instagram if you are below the age of 13
- You can choose not to share your location
- You can reach out to your parents to keep you safe
- You can have a back-up account
- You can hide your profile appearance
- You have the choice to report someone if you don't feel safe
- You can block other users
- You can make your account private



Security Feature Recommendations

- Easier ways to block comments or people



YouTube

Current Security Features

- You have the ability to unsubscribe from people who are being mean
- Protection against fraud and abuse
- You can adjust the types of ads you see from Google
- You can control whether or not search results are affected by search activity in your browser



Security Feature Recommendations

- When a video is made, if that person says something bad about your video, they should be blocked from that channel

WhatsApp

Current Security Features

- You can have the option to report something if it does not look right
- You have the option to hide your location
- You have an option to choose if you want someone to see your messages
- You can report spam from inside the app
- If you don't want to interact with someone you can block them
- You can control who can see your information



Security Feature Recommendations

- Quicker ways to report
- Word and content filters
- Instant bans

General Recommendations

- Put a hard test on sign-up page (are you a robot test)
- Instant bans
- Word filter
- Monitor all messages and comments
- Content warnings before posting or watching potentially harmful content
- Short cut buttons to quickly report or block other users



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**ANTI-BULLYING
SQUAD**



So many children are having their lives ruined per year because of Cyberbullying - are you going to be a bystander or a **Bully Buster**?!



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