Be an eSafe kid:
Online boundaries - It's OK to say 'no'

eSafety has developed Virtual Classroom resources to teach students about online consent, and how to define online boundaries.

It is important to begin exploring the concept of consent with students in Years 3 to 6 using age-appropriate examples. Talking about consent and boundaries at an early age gives students the skills and strategies they need to recognise and mitigate online risks.

These discussions will help to prepare them for more mature concepts like sexual consent and sharing intimate images, when they are older.

eSafety suggests you tailor your discussions according to your students' level of understanding.

These resources include:

• a lesson plan for Years 3 to 4
• a lesson plan for Years 5 to 6
• a student worksheet to use during the Virtual Classroom session
• a list of scenarios that students can discuss after the Virtual Classroom is finished
• an activity encouraging students to think about relationships and setting boundaries called 'I feel comfortable'.

Each lesson or activity can stand-alone or be included in a comprehensive online safety program. You can also read the Student voice survey (Years 4 to 6) for an insight into student perspectives before you begin lesson planning.

Joining the webinar

A webinar access link will be included in your registration email. Use this to join the session. Students should not log on individually.

The Virtual Classroom session runs for 45 minutes.

Students can participate by:

• listening to the presenter
• recording answers to the questions on the worksheet. You can send an editable PDF for students to use on their device or print a copy for each student before the webinar.
• responding to the teacher-facilitated discussions using the webinar chat box to record the answers
• taking their worksheets home and sharing their learning with parents and carers.

Help and support services

eSafety Commissioner

The eSafety Commissioner provides support to Australians experiencing online bullying or abuse. We investigate cyberbullying, image-based abuse and illegal and harmful content.

Young people 18 years and under can make a complaint about cyberbullying. They can also make a report if an intimate image has been shared, or someone is threatening to share it without their consent. esafety.gov.au

Other support services

Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800

Kids Helpline is a free, confidential phone and online counselling service that young Australians aged 5 to 25 can call 24/7. kidshelpline.com.au

Beyond Blue 1300 22 4636

Beyond Blue provides information and support to help Australians achieve their best possible mental health, whatever their age and wherever they live. beyondblue.org.au

Bullying. No Way!

Bullying. No Way! supports individuals, schools and communities to work together to create learning environments where everyone feels safe, supported, respected and valued. bullyingnoway.gov.au

Training for educators

eSafety provides webinar-based professional development for educational staff to explore the latest online safety research, examine case studies and discuss how to integrate online safety into their programs.

eSafety developed the Online harmful sexual behaviours, misinformation and emerging technology module in 2021.

It includes 90 minutes of learning through live webinar participation, 30 minutes of reading and an assessment. Participants who complete the course will receive a certificate for two hours of professional learning.