



Responding to online safety incidents

An eSafety professional learning presentation for schools. (Slides)

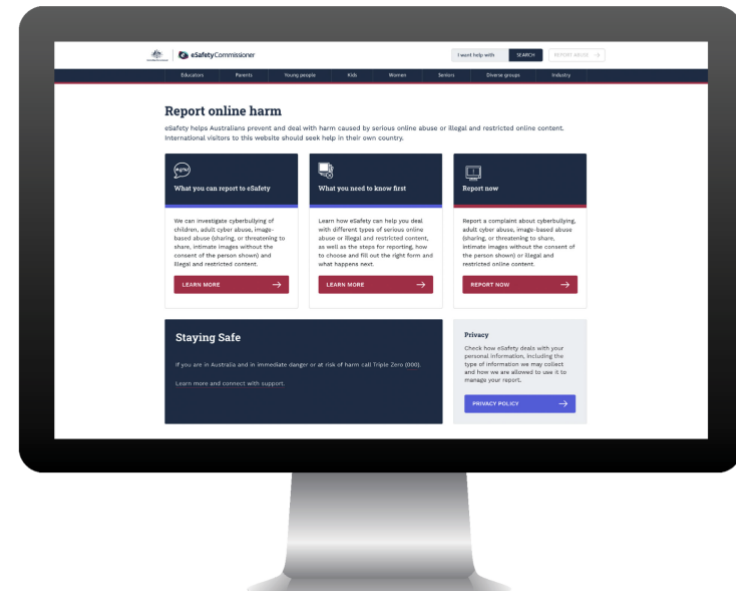


Content warning: This presentation will include discussion about online safety incidents. As with child protection training, this material is important for you to know about, and you are encouraged to take care with yourself and others and reach out to school and/or sector support services as needed.

Setting the context

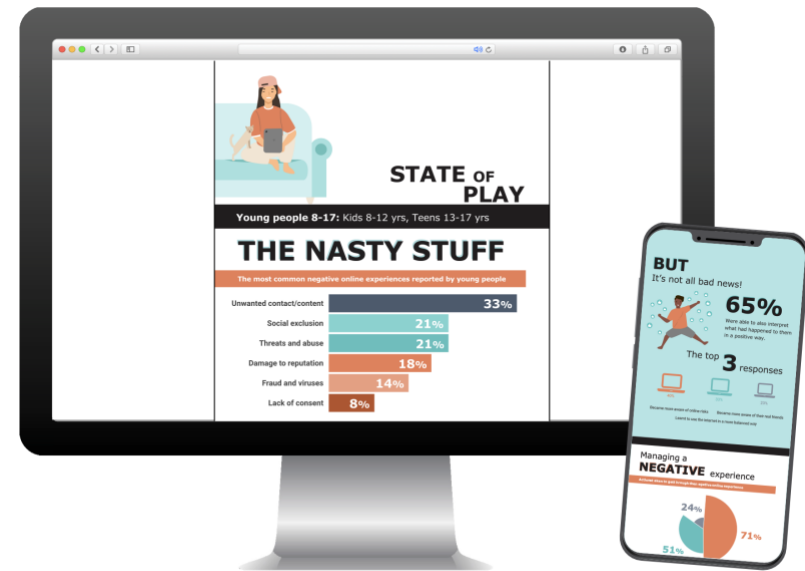
Opening questions

- Why is online safety important at our/this school?
- Has anyone responded to an online safety incident at school in the past 12 months?
- Who is aware of eSafety's reporting schemes?



What are some of our most common online safety issues?

- Do you think these issues are the same or different in other schools?

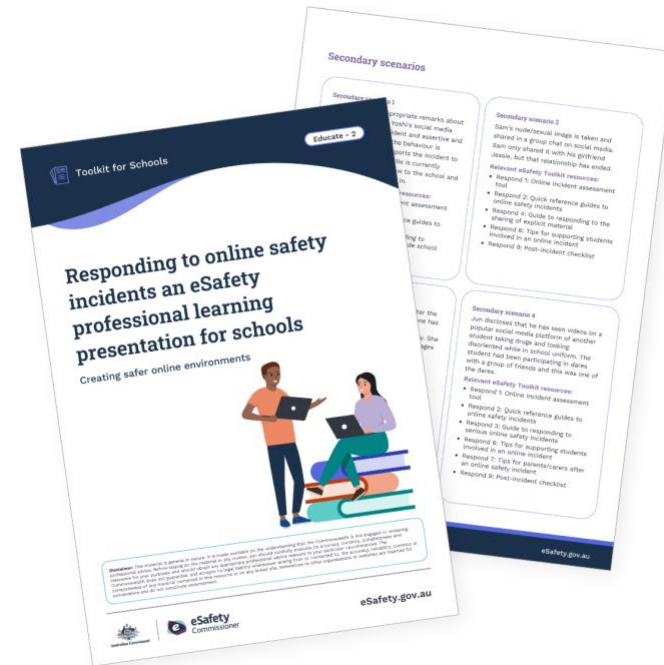


Activity

- Each group has a scenario card that describes an online safety incident.
- Discuss the scenarios and your suggested responses. There are three prompt questions on the next slide to help.
- Groups will then present findings and share strategies. The goal is to identify what good practice might look like.

Important note

These scenarios will include discussions about online safety incidents. As with child protection training, this material is important for you to know about, and you are encouraged to take care of yourself and others and reach out to school and/or sector support services as needed.



Prompt questions

- Q1 - What would we do if faced with this scenario? What would we do first?
- Q2 - How could we help to resolve the issue?
- Q3 - What can we learn from this online safety incident?



Q1 Discussion

What would we do if faced with this scenario?
What would we do first?

Things to consider:

- Is the student at risk of harm and if so, who should be notified?
- Which school and/or education sector policies and procedures are most relevant? Who in the school leadership team should be notified of this incident?
- Which Toolkit for School pieces will be most helpful in this scenario?

Important note

Some of the scenarios may raise issues that should be discussed with school leadership, department/sector advisors or legal teams, as applicable.



Q2 Discussion

How could we help to resolve the issue?

Things to consider:

- What's the story behind the incident?
- Where is the content posted? How widely available is it?
- What are the possible impacts of the material? In the short term? In the longer term?
- Have the student's vulnerabilities, needs, circumstances, rights and best interests been considered?

Important note

The student/s affected may experience anxiety, anger or distress. It can be useful to involve a teacher or counsellor who the student feels comfortable with to make the disclosure process easier. Throughout the process it is important to remain calm, reassuring and non-judgmental.



Can content be removed?



Is the student part of the solution?



What does our student wellbeing or acceptable behaviour policy say?



Do all students feel safe and supported?

Q3 Discussion

What can we learn from this online safety incident?

Things to consider:

- What could we change to prevent something like this from happening again?
- What records need to be kept? Is our record keeping adequate?
- Who could be involved in the debrief?
- Has the behaviour stopped?
- Did we provide enough support?
- At what point/s could online safety education be part of the short and/or long-term response?



Who can report and what steps can they take?



Wrap up

- What have you learnt today?
- What aspects of our internal policies and/or procedures may need to change?
- Do we need more professional learning in this area?

Check out the eSafety website: www.esafety.gov.au

