

Below you will find some wider activities to promote the idea of celebrating and responding to differences online.

Spreading the word

Discuss the idea of celebrating difference and respecting others; what does it mean to your community and how can you spread the message? Ask the young people to think of a way of reaching out to other children, staff, parents, governors or your wider community. They may wish to create posters, organise an event or encourage others to share positive messages.

#shareaheart - get involved with our social media campaign

As part of Safer Internet Day 2016 we will be sharing two hashtags; #SID2016 and #shareaheart. As part of your Safer Internet Day celebrations you could photograph young people finding ways to share a heart. They may wish to create this using artwork or creating words using their bodies. Any photos shared on Twitter using the above hashtags may be retweeted by the UK Safer Internet Centre to our followers and is a great way to get your school's message seen by a wide audience. Only photos sent from school/organisation Twitter accounts will be retweeted.

You can also encourage the young people you work with to post positive messages using the above hashtags.

Important: Please ensure that you have the appropriate media consent from parents for any young people appearing in the photo.

Wear your words - positive commenting

In this activity all young people will need a plain t shirt, preferably a light colour, which they can write on. Throughout the day they wear their t-shirts and are encouraged to write **positive** messages and comments about the person on their t-shirt. Through group discussions you can explore with them what it feels like to give a positive message and the response they received from that person. Consider how this feels when you send a positive message online and how it can impact on the recipient. You may also wish to discuss how the messages can remain long after they have been created.

As an alternative to t-shirts, you could use post-it notes or sticky labels to attach messages to a person.

Post it!

Put a series of photographs up around your school/setting of different people. Ensure that these are not images of people the young people know. Allow them to write comments on post-it notes and post them underneath to simulate the action of posting a comment online. They will need to put their name and age next to their comment so others can see who it has been sent by. This is to encourage them to think about what they choose to say and how other people might see that. You may wish to post an unkind comment up there as a teaching point to discuss what you would do if you saw this online (e.g. tell an adult, report the comment, block the user, say something positive to support the person).

Communication code

With your group/class, look at and consider different forms of verbal and written communication, including online comments.

- How are they similar?
- How are they different?
- What does 'good communication' look like and what does 'bad communication' look like?
- How do we make sure that people understand what we are trying to say?

As a group, ask the young people to create a communication code/top tips for how to communicate online in a clear, friendly and positive way.

Question walls

Place questions around your school/setting for young people to discuss and answer using post-it notes or on slips of paper dropped into answer boxes.

Possible questions:

- What things make us all different?
- What things make us the same?
- How do we communicate online?
- How can we make the internet a better place?
- How would it feel to receive a hurtful message online?
- How would it feel to receive a kind, positive message online?

