

Safer internet day 2019: CONSENT

Safer internet day is an educational day on the 5th of February that occurs annually in schools across the UK. This years theme was **consent**. Consent is basically where you give permission to someone or an organisation (eg to be interviewed on the BBC) to post a picture or video of you on the internet. The importance of consent is so significant in eSafety that it was decided to be the theme for this year's safer internet day.

Asking for consent

Asking for consent is just as important as giving it or saying no. In almost every scenario possible you must always ask for consent. Even if is just a tired commuter sleeping on the bus / train and you take a photo you always need to ask them if they want it to be uploaded to the internet. This is just one scenario. Remember that millions of people have been affected by people not asking for consent when posting something that can be private or sensitive to somebody else. **Never ignore if somebody says no to you asking for consent.**

Approving consent

Saying yes is easy. Just say yes on your form of communication and check the internet for the video or photo. If it is a different video or photo that makes you feel anxious or embarrassed then you probably shouldn't trust that person again (note that this is our advice and we are not forcing you to follow her advice).

Declining consent

As a child it is always hard to say no. Your friend takes a video of you saying, "Hi, I am a fat lemon," and wants to post it on YouTube because he thinks it will go viral and become a massive meme. You say yes. It goes viral and you are becoming recognised on the street when you walk to school. You feel distressed and uncomfortable and don't want to go outside in fear of being recognised and laughed at. So, it's time for one of Tom and Felix's trademark (and copyrighted) questions!

What would you do?

Here are some appropriate things you could do to stay safe online:

- A) Leave your social media accounts
- B) Still go out on the street but instead of being laughed at laugh with the people who recognise you
- C) Try not to hate the person who posted the video and accept their apology (assuming they give one)
- D) Ignore them and soon it will die down.
- E) Try no not to show that you care

All these things are hard to do and that is why **it is essential that you say no.**

By Tom and Felix