

# ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER.



## CRITICAL THINKING AND MISINFORMATION

Recent events have led to a significant rise in discussions around further enhancing pupils critical thinking skills and explicit teaching of how to identify misinformation and 'fake news.' Below is a collection of resources to enhance your current curriculum:

**Internet-Matters-Online-Critical-Thinking-Guide-1.pdf** ([internetmatters.org](https://internetmatters.org)) - Top tips to empower children to make smarter informed choices to navigate their online world safely.

**Fake news and misinformation advice hub - Internet Matters** Fake news and misinformation facts & advice hub. Help children develop their media literacy to stay safe online

**Introduction to Thinking Critically Online | Digital Matters** ([internetmatters.org](https://internetmatters.org)) – Digital Matters interactive story

**Share Checklist | Take care with what you share - Home** – SHARE checklist and resources to support 'spotting fake news'

**Online Misinformation & the UK Riots - Educate Against Hate** - resource page to help teachers and school leaders teach students about extremism, conflict, spotting mis and disinformation, online safety, and our shared fundamental British values



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## EXTREMISM



**Responding to Online Extremism – Guidance for Professionals and Parents** ([swgfl.org.uk](https://swgfl.org.uk)) - The SWGfl have outlined some key points in how to approach online extremist content with children and young people, developed by the Professionals Online Safety Helpline.

**InSight: Building Young People's Resilience To Radicalisation and Extremism - Educate Against Hate** - Document for educators including guidance, classroom resources and activities created by the InSight Project for

KS3, KS4 and KS5.

**Identity, Extremism and Digital Resilience - Educate Against Hate** - Three classroom lessons on identity, violent extremism and digital resilience created by the Community Safety Team at the London Borough of Waltham Forest. It is intended for use within upper KS2 classrooms but could be adapted for lower KS2 and lower KS3 settings.

**Prevent, Radicalisation and Extremism – Safe4Me** - The resources in this toolkit are designed to

be flexible and adaptable to meet individual needs, suitability, and time; adaptable for KS3, KS4 and Post 16, they can be used in one or across multiple lessons.

**Creative Curriculum: FBV Lesson Plans - Educate Against Hate** - Lesson plans for Reception to Year 6 including fun and creative ways to incorporate fundamental British values into the curriculum.

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## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

### **A deep dive into deepfakes that demean, defraud and disinform - Ofcom**

New Ofcom research, published in July 2024 reveals the prevalence of online deepfakes, we look at what can be done to tackle those that cause harm.

- Two in five people say they have seen at least one deepfake in the last six months – including depictions of sexual content, politicians, and scam adverts
- Only one in ten are confident in their ability to spot them
- Ofcom sets out what tech firms can do to tackle harmful deepfakes

**Support and Advice for Schools on Synthetic Media & Deepfakes | SWGfL** – information and guidance for schools.

**How to Spot a Deepfake: Guidance for Professionals, Parents and Carers (swgfl.org.uk)** – article published in August 2024,



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## SAVE THE DATE!

**Anti-Bullying Week 2024: Choose Respect (anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk) - Monday 11th to Friday 15th November** and is now entering its 20th year. Celebrated across England, Wales, and Northern Ireland, the 2024 theme, **Choose Respect**, is particularly timely and relevant in today's climate.

The Anti-Bullying Alliance has produced a **launch video** outlining this year's theme and highlighting the drive to 'empower children and young people not to resort to bullying even when we disagree, and remind adults to lead by example online and offline.'

**Look out for our soon to be published 2-part blog 'Remember. Respect' for additional information and resources to support the enhancement of your school's anti-bullying strategy.**

### **Safer Internet Day 2025**

**Tuesday, 11 February 2025** – watch this space for updates and resources to use in your setting

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Every care has been taken to ensure the information and any recommendations in the newsletter are accurate at the time of publishing. Schools must make their own judgements when sharing our recommendations with parents and carers and, where appropriate, always risk assess with their pupils and whole school community in mind.

This newsletter is brought to you by the HFL Education Wellbeing team as part of their online safety support for schools and settings in Hertfordshire. Contact the team at [wellbeing@hfleducation.org](mailto:wellbeing@hfleducation.org) or call 01438 544464.

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We support those we work with to achieve successful long-term outcomes for their children.

We believe that every young person, through access to a great education, should be able to realise their potential, regardless of where they live, their background or circumstances.



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