



Bedford Inclusive Learning
and Training Trust

Achieving • Believing • Collaborating

Helping you to support your child online

'Sexting'

Sending 'nudes' (naked or partially clothed photos) to someone is called **sexting**. Often young people might take these images and send them to someone for personal reasons – they are their boyfriend or girlfriend.

It is **illegal** in the UK to send nudes to someone if they, or the sender, are under 18.

Some young people might take nudes of their own or share the nudes of others. They may do this:

- to 'fit in' or gain the approval of others,
- they are told to by a friend,
- they think that it is something that everybody does,
- they are curious about their own body and other's bodies,
- they have a lack of inhibition,
- to see how others react to it,
- to have 'fun' or
- thinking of being wanted by someone
- to hurt or embarrass someone.

We hope you can help us by talking regularly to your child about how we should all behave online.

Discussing nudes/sexting can be intimidating; however, showing a united front on its implications is essential. It is important to remind your child that anything you post online will exist forever. Once something is put onto the internet or social media, it can be nearly impossible to delete or take back. An inappropriate social media post or message can be screenshot and remain searchable even 20 years later.

If you would like further guidance on this topic and any other online safety concerns, don't hesitate to contact Charlotte Thomas, Angela Morris or Claudine Rowley.

Further reading on this topic – and others - is available on the school website.

Detailed below is the link to the Childline website, which also has some excellent resources and advice.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/sexting/>

Claudine Rowley ICT Teacher, Grange Academy / BILTT Digital Lead