

November 2017

1. Young children groomed on live streaming app Periscope

Children as young as nine are being groomed on the live streaming app Periscope, a BBC investigation has found.

Twitter, which owns the app, says it has “zero tolerance” for this kind of conduct.

Link: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-40686763/young-children-groomed-on-live-streaming-app-periscope>

2. Twitter reveals new figures from its clamp-down of online abuse

Twitter users are experiencing “significantly less abuse” on the social media platform than six months ago, the company has claimed.

As part of a results update on the social network’s work to improve safety for users, Twitter said it is taking action on 10 times the number of abusive accounts every day compared to the same time last year.

Today, we are sharing a results update on our safety work. <https://t.co/U21FsGCpzQ> — Twitter Safety (@TwitterSafety) July 20, 2017

However the micro-blogging site admitted there is “still much work to be done”.

Since the start of the year, Twitter has announced several updates to its platform designed to cut down on abusive content, including reducing notifications and increasing filters on “low quality tweets” that appear in user timelines.

The social platform has been repeatedly criticised by industry figures and government over its record of handling abusive material that appears on the site, and has pledged to work with independent experts to cut down on extremism online.

Twitter’s Ed Ho said in the last four months, the site had removed double the number of abusive accounts created by users who had previously had other accounts suspended for violations of site rules.

Twitter’s head of trust and safety, Del Harvey, said: “There’s no easy fix – as the world’s conversation evolves so too does the challenge we face.

“We’ll continue to adapt and do our part to ensure Twitter continues to be the safest place to see every side of what’s happening.”

Link: <http://home.bt.com/tech-gadgets/tech-news/twitter-reveals-new-figures-from-its-clampdown-of-online-abuse-11364197442087>

For more information about e safety :

- go to <http://www.blackpoolaspireacademy.co.uk>
- come into school and talk to a member of Student Services

3. Instagram is the worst social media platform for cyber-bullying

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Most of us, at some point, have been on the receiving end of a nasty comment or a hurtful DM on #Social media. A new study conducted by #Ditch The Label, an anti-bullying charity, has highlighted that cyber-bullying is becoming a growing malady in the virtual world.

Cyberbullying is similar to other forms of bullying, except it takes place online. Most common forms of online bullying include sending hurtful or intimidating messages via text or email, posting offensive comments or hacking a person's social media account and sending inappropriate/ unwanted posts or messages posing as that person.

The study that surveyed over 10,000 young people aged 12-20 stated that around 70% of youngsters confessed to being abusive towards another person on the Internet while 17% claimed to have been bullied online.

Instagram is the most common social media platform for cyber-bullying, the latest research pointed out. More than 40% of youngsters have faced online bullying on the photo-sharing app. Meanwhile, 37% report being bullied on Facebook, and 31% on Snapchat. In an issued statement, Instagram Policy Chief, Michelle Napchan, said that the site has "recently invested heavily in new technology" to help make the photo-sharing app "a safe and supportive place." Instagram also mentioned that it encourages users to report any incident of cyberbullying that occurs on the Facebook-owned app.

The Internet is redefining the dynamics of bullying

The research also added that posting nasty comments on photos and profile pictures, sending inappropriate private messages, and wrongly reporting a profile were some of the most common ways of bullying online.

"Not only is the internet redefining the climate of bullying, but also it is having clear impacts upon the identity, behaviours and personality of its young users," says Liam Hackett, Chief Executive of Ditch the Label, in a BBC report.

Earlier, in 2013, a Trolled Nation study had stated that Facebook is the worst social networking site when it comes to trolling and cyber-bullying. Over 80% of the teen participants bullied online reported that they were targeted on Facebook.

The most frequent victims of Internet bullying were 19-year-old boys, noted the researchers.

Cyber-bullies can be classmates, online acquaintances, and even anonymous users, but most often they do know their victims, states National Crime Prevention Council, U.S. It also adds that Internet bullies often hide behind screen names and email addresses that don't identify who they are which can aggravate the victim's insecurity.

Link: <http://uk.blastingnews.com/tech/2017/07/instagram-is-the-worst-social-media-platform-for-cyber-bullying-001864525.html>