**ONLINE ABUSE**

*What is online abuse?*

Online abuse is any type of abuse that happens on the web, whether through social networks, playing games online or using mobile phones. Individuals may experience cyber-bullying, grooming, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or emotional abuse.

Individuals can be at risk from people they know, as well as from strangers. Online abuse may be part of abuse that is taking place in the real world (for example bullying or grooming), or it may be that the abuse only happens online (for example persuading an individual to take part in sexual activity online). Individuals can feel like there is no escape from online abuse – abusers can contact them anytime of the day or night, the abuse can come into safe places like their bedrooms, and images and videos can be stored and shared with other people.

*How to get help*

Speak to any member of College staff or speak to the College Safeguarding Team on 01226 216142 or via email at [safeguarding@barnsley.ac.uk](mailto:safeguarding@barnsley.ac.uk)

*Other support*

nspcc.org.uk – 0808 800 5000

ChildLine – 0800 1111 (24 hours)