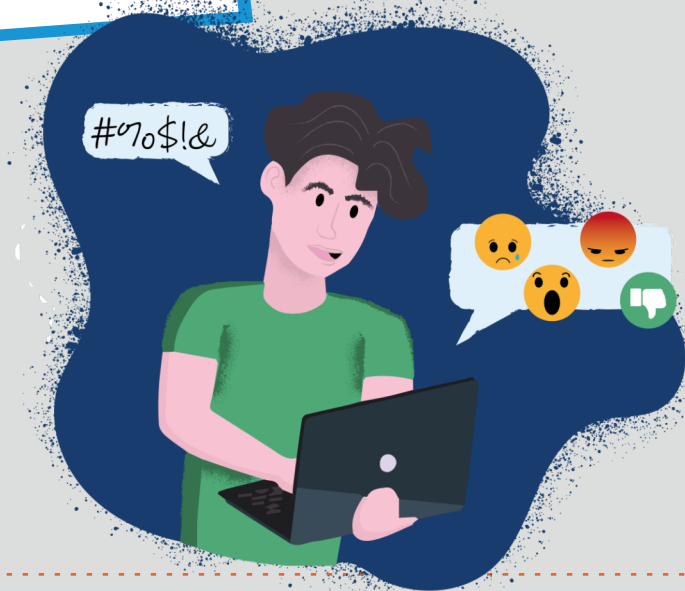# A Guide to Online Reporting

SWGfL — Safe. Secure. Online.

REPORT HARMFUL CONTENT

The internet is a vast ocean of information, opinions, and content. While many of us will go online and have a positive experience, we must accept that this is not always the case for everyone. So when we see something online that we know is harmful, it is time to take action and report it.

Why Should I Report?

A lot of us can witness or fall victim to online harm. If you become concerned or feel uncomfortable about something you have seen online, the following points illustrate why reporting content is always the best course of action.

1 Reporting can often lead towards harmful content being removed

2 Reporting shows why certain types of behaviour should not be tolerated online

3 Reporting allows control to be taken away from online perpetrators

4 Reporting works towards a safer internet for everyone

When Should I Report?

When you make a report, you are essentially escalating it for review around whether something should remain online or not with reference to the law or specific standards associated with online platforms. You should always report if you come across content that:

1 Contains child sexual abuse material or terrorist content

2 Is harmful or abusive towards yourself or others

3 Promotes self-harm or suicide

4 When someone is impersonating you or others

5 Contains unwanted sexual advances

6 Contains violent content

7 Threatens you or others

8 Contains pornographic content

Who Should I Report To?

Different services are required for different types of content with reporting processes available for both illegal and legal but harmful content. To get a better understanding of where you should go to for support, follow the below guide.

1 **Report Harmful Content** (reportharmfulcontent.com) – Reporting legal but harmful content

2 **Internet Watch Foundation** (iwf.org.uk) – Reporting child sexual abuse material

3 **ACT** (act.campaign.gov.uk) – Reporting terrorism related content

4 **Dial 999** – If content shows a child or someone in danger

Other Services and Support

Refer to the below services for further advice and support:

1 **Revenge Porn Helpline** (revengepornhelpline.org.uk) – Suitable for adults over the age of 18 experiencing or affected by intimate image abuse

2 **Professionals Online Safety Helpline** (swgfl.org.uk/helplines/professionals-online-safety-helpline) – Online safety issues and concerns for professionals

3 **Report Remove** (childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/remove-nude-image-shared-online) – Supporting under 18s to report nude images that have been shared

4 **StopNCII.org** (stopncii.org) – Supporting adults with protecting their intimate images from perpetrators of intimate image abuse.

For more information on reporting visit: swgfl.org.uk/topics/reporting/

or scan the QR code

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UK Safer Internet Centre

Professionals Online Safety Helpline