

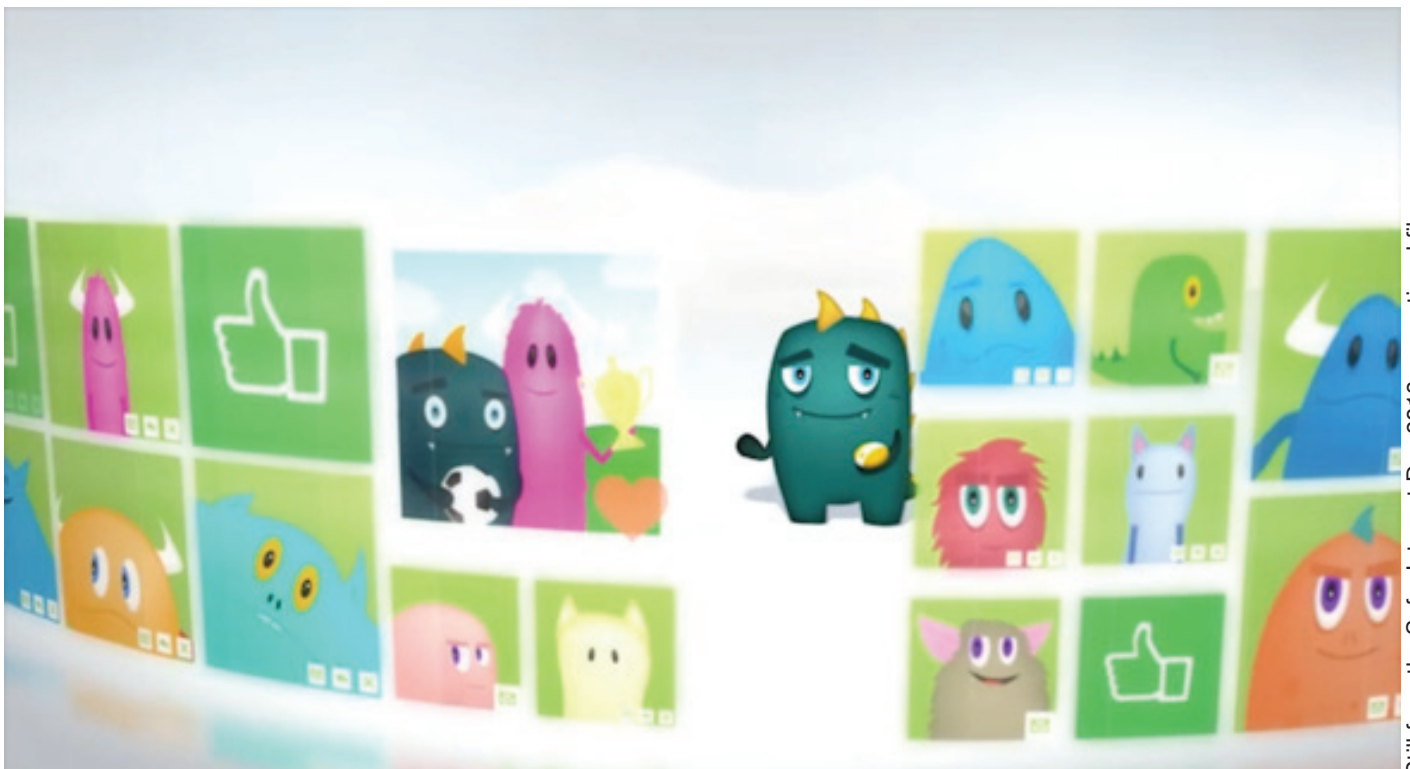


INTRODUCTION

For teachers and parents, knowing that what children and young people view online is suitable for them, and ensuring that moving and still images of young people are used appropriately, are important concerns.

This article offers basic information and links to explore issues of online safety both with reference to film and in wider contexts. It is relevant to teachers working with children aged 7-19 in ICT, citizenship, PSHE, literacy and English.

Whilst online safety is relevant year-round, teachers may wish to use the linked resources here to explore the issues in events around Safer Internet Day on February 5th 2013. The theme of this year's Safer Internet Day is 'Online Rights and Responsibilities: Connect with Respect'.



Still from the Safer Internet Day 2013 promotional film

BEST PRACTICE

Schools and other organisations often have their own policies and procedures in place for keeping children safe online. In terms of the moving image content available to children and young people, whole-school policies might include using firewalls to restrict access to certain sites with the aim of protecting both the users and the system itself. Teachers may also be required to supervise children and young people when viewing moving image content online. Schools will usually have policies on the capture and use of still and moving images of children and young people, with information on the way that these images can be used on a school website or other locations online. For example, schools may use closed networks to publish or broadcast children's moving image work so that these images can only be seen by appropriate audiences. Teachers should always be sure that they are following best practice and the particular rules of their institution.

If you use the Internet to view film clips or trailers in lessons, you'll know that being able to trust the content is an important concern. The Film Education website offers teaching resources that include still and moving images from feature films which can be used in curricular contexts. Each resource suggests both the subject and the age group that the educational materials are most appropriate for – by phase, key stage or age – and this should guide teachers in the first instance about what to use in their classrooms. Clips and trailers are carefully chosen for each resource; however, we always recommend teachers view the content themselves before using it in the classroom. Our site also includes some video content made by children and young people, for example the winners of our Be Creative or Young Film Critic competitions. This work is usually produced under teacher supervision and is shown with appropriate permissions.

FILM, INTERNET AND COPYRIGHT

As films and film content are now readily available online, it can be difficult to establish which sources are providing access to legally available material. Schools should be aware of issues relating to intellectual property and ensure that they employ best practice, both setting a good example for their students and avoiding any complications for the institution.

In terms of film, TV and video, authorised sources are those that show content in the way their makers intended and have allowed, such as in the cinema, on official DVD or Blu-ray, or via 'above board' online sources that you can find via Find Any Film (www.findanyfilm.com).

Copyright laws are intended to protect the interests of rights holders, but there are a number of exceptions to copyright laws pertaining to the use of film within educational establishments. According to these exceptions, teachers may show films (including whole films and clips) in the classroom for the purposes of teaching and learning. Teachers should be aware that after school, lunchtime or breaktime showings of films for entertainment are not covered in the same way by this exception. You can find further details on this exception on the UKIPO's website (www.ipo.gov.uk/types/copy/c-other/c-exception/c-exception-teaching.htm).

USEFUL LINKS

A number of organisations in the UK work to help keep children and young people safe online:

- The UK Safer Internet Centre (www.saferinternet.org.uk) offers helpful information, advice and resources, with supporting resources (www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2013/schools-packs) for primary and secondary schools available free of charge.
- UK charity Childnet (www.childnet.com) also offers a wide range of resources for schools and advice on staying safe online

For advice on film classification decisions and information about what the different rating certificates mean, see the BBFC website (www.bbfc.co.uk)

Film Education resources:

- Creative Rights, Digital Responsibilities (http://www.filmeducation.org/pdf/resources/secondary/CRDR_A4Booklet.pdf)

This educational resource encourages and supports an exploration of issues relating to creativity in the digital age

- Switched on: learning in ICT (www.filmeducation.org/switchedon/)

Suitable for students aged 11-19, this online resource covers a wide range of issues relating to intellectual property as it explores our relationship with ICT.

