

# DISCOVER YOUR FUTURE SELF



## COVID-19 Staying safe online

[www.blc.ac.uk](http://www.blc.ac.uk)  
0800 074 0099



# Staying safe online

During the college closure, it is important to remember how to stay safe online.

Social media and internet usage are a great way to keep in touch with friends and family and provides opportunities for you to continue with your college learning, have fun and discover new hobbies!

However, the internet can expose you to risks including:

- Cyberbullying
- Online grooming
- Emotional abuse
- Online abuse
- Scams/frauds
- Extremism

For more information visit [www.blc.ac.uk](http://www.blc.ac.uk) or call 0800 074 0099

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# Staying safe online- Share with Care

Social media is all about sharing. However, over-sharing or inappropriate sharing could cause you problems. Our tips for sharing content are:



1. Photos- post appropriate pictures only. There are laws governing the sharing of images. See the Gov.uk website. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/indecent-images-of-children-guidance-for-young-people/indecent-images-of-children-guidance-for-young-people>
2. Privacy- check your privacy settings are high, only share with friends and family and keep the personal chat personal!

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# Staying safe online- Share with Care

3. People- remember, not everyone is who they say they are Don't accept or send friend requests to people you don't know.

4. Posts- share with care. Pause for thought before you post anything. Could it offend or upset someone? Once you put something out there, you are not in control of it anymore.

5. Personal information– give away as little personal information as possible. Be careful not to reveal personal information accidentally. For example, by posting a picture with information in the background. The more information = the more vulnerable you are to fraudsters or abusers.

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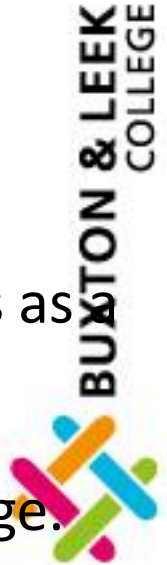
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# Staying safe online- Online gaming

You may be spending your free time playing online games as a way to relax, socialise with your friends and have fun. But remember, you can be at risk of abuse and fraud through gaming just as much as you can through social media usage.

The risk of online gaming include:

- Being Bullied
- Trolling, griefing and scams
- In-game purchases
- Talking to people you don't know



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# Staying safe online- Extremism & Radicalisation

During this time, please remain extra vigilant. Extremists use social media sites to identify, target and contact young people, this may be about political, religious views or relevant conspiracy theories. Advice/signs to look out for:

- Be aware of what content you are actively searching for, this may bring up content considered as Radical.
- Not all content you read is true. Inaccurate content can sometimes have a hidden agenda. Ensure you seek factually correct information from reputable websites such as BBC News, Gov.uk.
- Conversations you have on mainstream social media may be moved to platforms such as Kik Messenger or Omegle. Moving to a less mainstream platform makes the conversation less easy to monitor and increases anonymity for Extremists.
- Know who you are talking to online, consider re-visiting your privacy settings.
- Are your beliefs/views being influenced, consider why this is?

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# Staying safe online- help and advice

Worried about yourself or somebody else's online activities?  
Speak to one of the college's Safeguarding co-Ordinators (next slide)

Key contacts:

CEOP- report your concerns

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>

Childline- call or contact online <https://www.childline.org.uk/>

Victim support for online Fraud

<https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/crime-info/types-crime/fraud>



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# Key contacts

- Emma Kilbane – Student Support Officer, Buxton Campus

- [support@blc.ac.uk](mailto:support@blc.ac.uk)
- Phone - 01332 592621
- 9.30am-3.30pm

- Katie Lawson – Student Mentor, Leek Campus

- [support@blc.ac.uk](mailto:support@blc.ac.uk)
- Phone – 01298 330330
- 9.30-am – 3.30pm



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