



Sexual Consent and the Law

Year 9 Health and Well-being 4 Life Day

Boundaries Activity



Personal Boundaries

- Line up in two lines facing each other about 3 metres apart
- **Person 1:** walk slowly towards the person opposite
- **Person 2:** say 'Stop' when you start to feel uncomfortable
- **Person 1:** you must stop when asked to.



Some questions to think about...



Personal Boundaries

- Where does the responsibility for stopping lie between the two people?
- Why do you think people asked the other person to stop at different distances away?
- How did it feel to be able to say 'stop' and have that respected?
- How does it feel when people don't respect your boundaries?
- How would it have felt if the opposite person had kept taking a step forward even when you asked them to stop?

Discuss: What is consent?



Sexual Consent and the Law

- Consent is defined in law as *“agreement by choice made by someone with the freedom and capacity to consent”*.
- Under the law, it is **the person seeking consent who is responsible** for ensuring that these conditions are met.



- **TRUE OR FALSE**

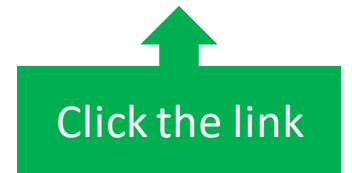
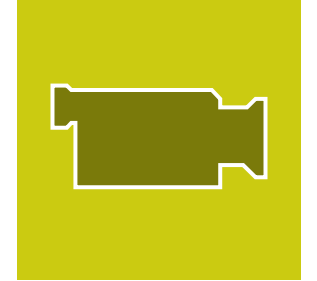
- 1 It is legal for a 17-year-old to voluntarily send a naked image of themselves by private message using social media?
- 2 It is legal for two consenting 16 year olds to have sex the UK?
- 3 If you are under 16 you need your parent/carers permission to access contraception and advice?
- 4 Children aged 15 and above can opt into Sex Education in school against their parents/carers wishes?
- 5 It's legal for a 14 year old to show their genitals to someone in public?
- 6 A care worker can have a sexual relationship with a 17 year old as long as it is consensual?
- 7 It is against the law in the UK to watch pornography involving animals?
- 8 It is illegal to take a picture underneath someone's shorts or skirt?
- 9 FGM (Female Genital Mutilation) is legal in certain situations such as for cultural or religious reasons?
- 10 It is against the law for someone to wolf-whistle, or make sexual comments towards someone in the street in the UK?

Key points



Key Messages about Consent

- 'Not saying no' is not giving consent.
- A key sign of consent is that the person clearly wants to engage in the activity and actively demonstrates this.
- Keep checking for consent.
- It is not consent if the other person is not actively consenting, does not have the capacity to consent (e.g. not old enough, impaired judgement due to alcohol etc), or is being manipulated, exploited or coerced.



What do YOU think?



Consent Scenario 1

Karl and Laura have been a couple for two years and have been having sex for over a year. Last night, Laura was falling asleep when Karl wanted to have sex. When Karl asked, Laura rolled over and mumbled something about being sleepy. Karl carried on anyway and Laura didn't push him off.

- Has Laura given her consent?
- Why / why not?
- What are the possible consequences for Karl & Laura?
- What should Karl & Laura do next?

What do YOU think?



Consent Scenario 2

Nisha and Steve have been flirting online for a while now, and have had conversations about sexual fantasies. When they met up, Nisha expected they would have sex straight away, but Steve didn't want to. Nisha said Steve had led her on, and that she would post online all their private chats if he didn't agree.

- Has Steve given her consent?
- Why / why not?
- What are the possible consequences for Nisha & Steve?
- What should Nisha & Steve do next?