

How much do you know about sexual harassment?

This quiz can be used as part of staff guidance ahead of delivery of the activities and discussion points for pupils included in the challenging harassment toolkit.

		True	False	Not sure
1	Over a third of female students at mixed-sex schools have personally experienced some form of sexual harassment at school.			
2	School staff can assure pupils of confidentiality if they make a sexual harassment disclosure at the initial stage.			
3	Sharing nudes or semi-nudes (previously referred to as sexting) can be defined as an act of sexual harassment.			
4	If a perpetrator denies the harassment and claims it be 'banter', the disclosure should not be reported and the case should be closed.			
5	Sexual harassment and sexual violence are the same thing.			
6	Figures show that, between the ages of 17 and 18, the likelihood of a child sending an explicit image more than doubles.			
7	Perpetrators of 'upskirting' can face up to two years' imprisonment.			
8	Almost 80% of girls at secondary schools and colleges say sexual assault happens a lot or sometimes between people their age.			

Answers

1. True. According to the report ["It's just everywhere": A study on sexism in schools and how we tackle it](#) (National Education Union and UK Feminista, 2017), over a third (37%) of female students and 6% of male students at mixed-sex schools have personally experienced some form of sexual harassment at school.
2. False. Do not promise confidentiality at this initial stage as it is very likely a concern will have to be shared further to discuss next steps (for example, with the designated safeguarding lead or children's social care). Staff should only share the report with those people who are necessary in order to progress it. It is important that the victim understands what the next steps will be and who the report will be passed to. For further guidance, see [Keeping children safe in education](#)
3. True. The term 'sharing nudes or semi-nudes' is defined as the sending or posting of nude or semi-nude images, videos or live streams online by young people under the age of 18. This was previously referred to as 'sexting', or sometimes 'youth-produced sexual imagery'. This act is certainly within the remit of 'sexual assault'.
(See www.gov.uk/government/publications/sharing-nudes-and-semi-nudes-advice-for-education-settings-working-with-children-and-young-people for detailed guidance.)
4. False. The term 'banter' is too often used to mask harassment; it's only funny if both parties find it funny. If a child is offended by, or feels uncomfortable with, something that is said to them, then it most certainly isn't banter: it's bullying, or sexual harassment if spoken in a sexual manner. If someone says, 'Don't be upset, it's just a bit of banter', it isn't banter.
5. False. See the staff guidance document at my.optimus-education.com/challenging-sexual-harassment-toolkit for definitions.
6. False. The age is much younger. According to the report 'Look At Me: Teens, sexting and risks', the likelihood of a child sending an explicit image more than doubles between the ages of 14 and 15. (See www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/new-cybersurvey-sexting-report-highlights-insight-into-digital-relationships-for-young-people-today/)
7. True – perpetrators will face two years in prison. By criminalising this distressing practice, it is hoped people are deterred from committing the crime. Upskirting, where committed to obtain sexual gratification, can result in offenders being placed on the sex offenders' register. The law sends a clear message that such behaviour is criminal and will not be tolerated. www.gov.uk/government/news/upskirting-law-comes-into-force
8. True. The name calling and the sexual grabbing elements are harder to explain for some pupils and many have given up with reporting.
www.theguardian.com/education/2021/jun/10/sexual-harassment-is-a-routine-part-of-life-schoolchildren-tell-ofsted