NOMINET

SHARE WITH CARE

A Nominet study reveals that secondary school teachers find issues related to social media and access to devices in the classroom are negatively impacting teaching time, pupils' mental health and academic performance.

Teaching time lost...

Seconday school teachers **lose an average of...**

17.2 MINUTES
of teaching time **every day**

86 MINUTES
of teaching time **each week**

11 DAYS
each year

...to social media related classroom disruption

*1

Classroom disruption...

46% Nearly half of secondary school teachers have experienced pupils **using social media apps in class**

4 in 10
have experienced **pupils' confidence being damaged** by social media issues

27%
have experienced social media **cyber bullying in class**

17%
have had pupils **sharing explicit content**

50% Half of teachers say that social media issues such as these are contributing to their **pupils achieving lower grades** than they could

Resolving social media issues...

The most common social media risks teachers help their pupils deal with are...

- Cyber bullying 71%
- Managing privacy settings 63%
- Messaging with strangers 63%
- Profile activity being seen by future employers/ universities 58%
- Self-esteem issues 56%

What teachers say...

72%
think **smartphones should be banned** from the classroom completely

63%
think schools **need dedicated staff** to deal with social media and internet issues

84%
say **parents need to do more** to help their children understand social media risks

Long term impact...

More than half of teachers say social media has **negatively affected their pupils' mental health** 57%

76%
agree that social media is making children **grow up faster**

64%
say their pupils **struggle to cope** with social media pressure

But many teachers don't feel equipped to provide the best help...

4 in 10 (40%) teachers say social media policies are difficult to enforce

Almost **a quarter** (24%) said they don't have the right skills to assist their pupils with these issues

Only **a quarter** (23%) say that they "definitely" have the right skills to help

A silver lining...

Despite many negative issues around social media, 62% of teachers have tried to use it and similar technologies in a more **positive** way within the classroom. The most popular activities are...

Using shared online services to **collaborate** on assignments
72%

Create a joint class or school blog
65%

Using social media sites to gather information or **research**
65%

Top tips for managing social media...

1. **Share with Care:** Always take time to consider the feelings of others and possible repercussions before sharing pictures of friends – and if in doubt seek their permission before you post. Also, be mindful of repercussions when sharing images or personal information about yourself. Once a post is seen it can't be 'unseen' and once shared it can't be 'unshared'.

2. **Regularly check privacy settings:** Social media sites frequently change their rules, so it's important you stay up to date to stay in control – check yours now and perhaps set diary reminders to help keep on top of these.

3. **Consider who you really want to be friends with:** Many of us admit that we don't actually know some of the people we're friends with on social media sites, yet are happy to share lots of personal information and photos with them. It's worth checking your contact list every now and again, and removing people you don't know.

To find out more visit: www.nominet.uk/news

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About the research:

Nominet commissioned Opinium to survey 500 UK secondary school teachers (year 7 and above) between 9th and 16th August 2017. *1 Time lost is assuming five hours of lessons per day, and a 39-week school year.

About Nominet

Nominet is an internet company delivering public benefit and is the trusted guardian of the UK namespace - one of the world's largest country code registries. Nominet manages and runs the infrastructure for over 10 million domain names that end in .uk as well as Welsh Top Level Domains (TLDs) .cymru and .wales, and provides registry services to a number of other branded and generic TLDs, including .bbc and .london. Over 3million businesses, and millions more consumers, rely on its registry services. It has a team of 150 people based in Oxford and London and over 2,500 members.

With the proceeds of its successful registry business, Nominet set up and supports Nominet Trust, its corporate foundation that funds tech for good projects.