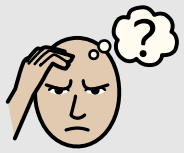
Understanding Banter Guidance

Equipping children and young people to navigate banter



According to NatterHub's Cyberbullying Data Report 2023/24, 83% of 9-10 year olds say they find it hard to tell the difference between banter and bullying.



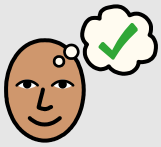
Since banter is contradictory in nature, it is natural that children, young people and adults will get it wrong sometimes, or need help navigating the 'line of acceptability' when it comes to using banter with friends.



We have developed a CPD training course and toolkit on understanding banter and bullying to provide the information and resources needed to have conversations about navigating the complex social interaction of banter, as well as develop a culture where banter is a positive thing and negative behaviours are challenged.

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Tips for professionals



Understanding the four elements of bullying is vital to knowing whether something is bullying: intentional, hurtful, repetitive, involves a power imbalance.



Offensive, threatening, violent and abusive language and behaviour is always unacceptable, whatever your role. This includes negative language or behaviour in relation to / referring to a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010 i.e. age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender, sexual orientation.



Language and behaviour can have different meanings, in different contexts. If you're unsure, ask what was meant.

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Tips for professionals



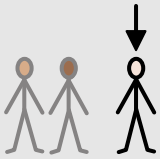
Just because someone uses certain language to refer to themselves it doesn't necessarily mean it's acceptable, nor does it make it okay for you to use it.



Just because you think something is banter or a joke doesn't mean other people will.



People won't always feel confident to speak up if they are offended by something. They might even go along with it so as not to draw attention to themselves.



Third parties might be offended, even if they're not part of your conversation.

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