# C7 & C8 – 180820

**In-person with siblings**

### Researcher

* C7
* C8

### Researcher

If somebody uses the phrase, the term social media, what do you immediately think of, how would you explain if an elderly person said ‘what’s social media?’

### C8

Just apps, where you can socialise with other people.

### C7

So apps where you can like talk to people with, and like send photos and stuff.

### Researcher

Right so we’ve got we got talking, we’ve got pictures. Is there anything else that you think is needed for something to be called social media?

### C7

You should be able to like talk with people but then you also should be able to put in like…you should be able to talk to people but you shouldn't have to use your real name, if you get me. So you can have like a funny username…

### Researcher

… so you could be anonymous…

### C7

… You could be ‘Chickenman3’ and no one would know that it was you.

### Researcher

OK. When you said talk [C7], were you talking about speech talk or talk through text or both?

### C7

Both. I think you should be able to do both for it to be social media.

### Researcher

Georgie are you happy with what he's saying or would you add to it or take anything away?

### C8

No, it just where you can socialise with other people

### Researcher

OK, I think it would be useful for me just to understand, do you use social media either of you?

### C8

I use WhatsApp and that’s it.

### C7

I use: Messages, Snapchat and Instagram, Facebook Messenger, Facebook and also WhatsApp. I don't use Twitter though.

### Researcher

No, why not?

### C7

Because it’s Twitter isn’t it.

### C8

Is it similar to Facebook?

### C7

Yeah, kind of.

I don’t see the point…and also I have no reason to get Twitter. So the whole reason I have so many is cos I chat with like team mates and stuff, for the different sports I do, and they have a group on Facebook and that’s why I got Facebook.

### Researcher

So you're drawn to particular social media because that's where you meet the people who you want to meet with?

### C7

Yeah

### Researcher

So if all your friends are on WhatsApp …

C8 is a bit more circumspect. WhatsApp is all you need in life. Why do you think this is? Is everybody you want on WhatsApp?

### C8

I don’t really see the point in social medias, apart from WhatsApp. Cos you just chat to people, whereas on Snapchat and Instagram you just send pictures of yourself…

### C7

…and can also talk to people..

### C8

…yeah buts then that’s being just the same as Messenger and WhatsApp isn’t it…

### C7

… yeah but it's like a different, like in a fresh spin isn’t it. Because you have the option to send picture messages as well. And also, with Snapchat as soon as you've seen it unless you save the message, it deletes it

### Researcher

…so it's there for a moment …

### C7

… you look at it and as soon as you come out of that chat, it disappears. 406

### Researcher

Do you think that changes what people communicate?

### C7

Yeah

### Researcher

Can you explain?

### C7

So I think people on Snapchat, I think that they feel like they can say a lot more because they know that it's going to be deleted. So yeah. But then also I think people have to be quite careful on Snapchat as, or because it does tell you if someone's deleted something or if they've taken a screenshot. So I think it's safer, and then you also have to be a lot more careful as well.

### Researcher

OK, treat me like a ninny, as if I don't know anything. So whether you do something or not doesn't matter, but what are the things you understand that you can do on social media…that people of your age group, either you or people you know, like doing?

### C8

Chatting.

### C7

So yes, you can talk to your friends and stuff and also you can kind of meet new people.

### Researcher

Meet new people within your friendship group, or meet new people who are beyond your friendship groups?

### C7

Both.

### C8

On Facebook you can …as you see people you know physically or strangers.

### C7

Yeah, yeah

### C8

So Facebook’s probably the wider range of Snapchat and stuff

### C7

Yeah. And also on Facebook you can join groups and stuff and they have people … and it's like they have a set subject for that group and so basically you just meet people that have similar interests.

### Researcher

Can you give me examples of groups that you've come across?

### C7

‘The Funniest Dad Jokes’ is a good group!

### Researcher

That’s interesting because you’ve brought in the idea of groups, the idea that within social media and some social media you can join people where you've got a common interest.

### C7

Yeah

### Researcher

Do you think that's essential for something to be social media? The idea that you can group people together or is that just …

### C7

…I'm not sure. I'm not sure it's essential I think it definitely helps in terms of making it a social media, but then also you know you don't want to constantly be meeting new people, sometimes you just want to have an area where you can just chat with your friends.

### Researcher

C8, when you said it's just for social, just for chatting, what sort of stuff do you think people chat about on social media?

### C8

Just their general life, what’s their the interests, their hobbies. How life is going.

### Researcher

So it's general, ‘how are you?’, ‘how are things going?’ Do you do practical arrangements in social media, do you arrange to…

### C8

I have a group called, ‘Meet-up Group’. Its where we organise meet-ups.

### C7

It’s very straight to the point!

### Researcher

Does what he says on the tin.

### C8

I wen tot [Name of place] yesterday

### Researcher

And it worked. Is there anything else that people do on social media that you think that's really… it maybe not something you do, but you might be aware that other people do that you think because we're using social media whatever it may that particular capability’s useful.

### C7

I think the a lot more people are mean using social media because they're not there saying it and they know they're like they're not gonna get like a slap. Because you can't hit someone through screen. I think they feel like quite safe to like be mean to people because then if like because if the person does confront them they can just say something like ‘oh that wasn't me’ or they can just avoid them.

### Researcher

Now the school was working with [Name of School] you know, its over in [Name of town] about 5 miles from here. And I got all of all Year 7 and 8 in terms of getting them to fill in the survey. And one of the questions was, ‘What's your top three social media?’ So I had about 400 replies. I am guessing I could have gone to [Name of C8 and C7’ School] and done the same thing and I'm guessing I'd have got a similar sort of list. I can't imagine it's hugely different…

### C8

…how’s that social media?

### Researcher

What you pointing at?

### C8

Minecraft

### C7

Yeah.. I don't I think Minecraft…it’s a game. I don't think Minecraft social media. It is also available on other consoles, but

### C8

…it's not social media

### Researcher

C8 why is it not social media, because it's… just cause it's a game?

### C8

Well, you can socialise on it but it's not what you use to chat to people…

### C7

…its main point isn't talk to people, its main point is to build things, mine and then craft things. You know!

### Researcher

Fine I'm glad you spotted that. Is there anything else there that you think that odd…

### C8

… well Google, Google Meet, I guess

### C7

Yeah Google Meets, Gmail stuff like that. I'm not sure about Xbox and PlayStation. I mean I can kinda get it coz you can talk to people. You have like parties…

### C8

[indistinct] those sorts of places where you play games…

### C7

…yeah

### C8

… you play with people.

### Researcher

If I asked you to draw up a list of all the social medias you could think of, you wouldn't have put Xbox in that list.

### C7

I wouldn't have Xbox, PlayStation or Minecraft…also what’s ‘Line of Duty’, that sounds like a game…

### Researcher

…it is a game…

### C7

…it is a game, then its not social media

### C8

….[indistinct] I like Call of Duty.

### Researcher

What about things like YouTube which is number 7. Are you happy that that's a social media?

### C7

Yes…

### C8

…but you can’t really chat to people. It’s only people that make videos for other people to watch…

### C7

…the comment section, you can …

### Researcher

…is that enough to make it social media?

### C8

That’s only [indistinct] a YouTuber not to having a chat with your mate.

### C7

I think YouTube is a social media because you can post things on there and you can share an opinion and that's and that's the main purpose of YouTube - is to share an opinion.

### Researcher

What do you think C8?

### C8

I don’t know…cos..YouTube is not like Facebook where you actually chat to other people but generally with comments you just like type your feedback on the videos or something.

### C7

Yeah and then and then sometimes you can get people to reply to it and you start having…usually the comments are about the video and stuff…

### C8

… but like that's not being social with other people its just commenting on the video

### C7

Um, I can kind of get it.

### Researcher

Now you brought something new into that conversation coz you suddenly talked about posting stuff, which is not a phrase you’ve used so far.

### C7

I also think that like a necessary feature for it to be social media. And WhatsApp does have post things, you can post statuses. So I think you should be able to post things and that's also…

### Researcher

How do you define posting? What does that term mean?

### C8

Just sending…

### C7

…its there's a lot putting something up on the site that other people can look at or they just you can look at. So you have obviously you have posts on Instagram and you can post videos on YouTube and then you can do Snapchat stories as well.

### Researcher

Can you post stuff on Messenger?

### C8

No.

### C7

No, I think for it to be a social media you have to either be able to post stuff or chat to people.

### C8

Doesn’t mean its social media, because you chat to people.

### C7

You can also post stuff on Messenger.

### C8

Typing is basically posting. Posting is when you put, I don’t know, pictures and that.

### Researcher

I think this is really good because what you're doing is you're grappling with definitions and probably you've never had to sit down and think, you just use it. So can I push you further? And I'm not as I said there's no right or wrong answer don't think I'm sat here with the right answer there isn't one, because nobody has defined it. Where does that leave number 16 Mail? So that's e-mail. Is email social media?

### C7

Yes … you can talk to people on it. You can talk to people over the Internet using emails…

### C8

….it depends what you use emails for. You can use email to do work wise you can also you but you can do chatting I guess.

### C7

...and some people do do their work on social media, like Facebook.

### Researcher

C8 are you comfortable with that definition or do you disagree?

### C8

I don’t really understand email in terms of chatting with other people. I thought email was just emailing your colleagues about work and [indistinct]…I isn’t really the top way to chat to other people.

### C7

You don’t find massive stings of email conversations. Whereas you would find that kind of thing on iMessage or Instagram.

### Researcher

What about phone? Which I’m guessing is just phone.

### C7

That’s not social media. I mean…

### Researcher

…that’s a communication tool…

### C8

You can get social media on it.

### Researcher

True, but I'm assuming that the person whose ticked that is talking about, ‘I communicate to people with the phone’. You pick up the call, you make calls. Is that enough to make it social media?

### C7

I don't think phoning someone is social media…

### Researcher

… it is communicating …

### C7

… it is communicating …

### Researcher

…and it's not social media because…

### C7

… I'm not sure it's just not … there something that makes … I think you have to be able to chat to people you can just typing not on a phone…

### C8

…you can ring someone…

### C7

… yes but you have to like type messages out for it to be social media … I’m just not sure I just don't think that phoning someone is social media.

### Researcher

…because there’s lots of different ways to say…

### C7

I think it has to be a set platform for it to be social media.

### Researcher

That's an interesting assertion.

### C8

There's a wide range of people with a meaning of social media. The main ones are WhatsApp, Twitter, Facebook. Then there’s is also the odd ones which you don't know whether they are, there’re in the middle.

### C7

Then also with phone you can't really meet new people unless you just type random numbers into the phone, you know, and I and I think that's also and thing with…

### Researcher

…you can post on a phone either can you…

### C7

… no you can't.

### Researcher

Can I get back to the games, or the game platforms rather. So if I'm on Xbox … do have a games?…

### C7

Yes

### Researcher

Which one?

### C7

Xbox

### Researcher

Xbox. So if I'm on Xbox and I've got my headset on and I'm busy playing, give me a game…

### C7

Fortnite

### Researcher

Fortnite. Is Fortnite a game that you play in collaboration with other people?

### C7 and C8

Yes, yes

### Researcher

So you're shooting up somewhere and there’s somebody else…

### C7

…on your team shooting for the same…

### C8

…there's online games you're playing against actual people…

### Researcher

OK and you're chatting to your team…

### C8

Or you could be playing solo…

### Researcher

Is that social media? The fact that you're chatting…

### C8

…I guess it is. Then you can also like just have a bit of fun playing while chatting about how life going.

### Researcher

You could be talking about the cricket and…

### C7

…also you can message people on Xbox and you can post things…

### Researcher

… and you can post stuff, I didn’t realise…

### C7

…yeah so clips of you playing the game yeah so if you did like a sick drifting and driving game, your clip you could then post that coz you thought people might like to watch it.

### Researcher

And is that clips gonna be around the next day?

### C7

Yes. So yeah you have to delete it for it to go away right.

### Researcher

So actually, you could have gigabytes and gigabytes of clips?

### C7

Yeah that you’ve posted up. And also there are groups for games; Minecraft Groups, Falsely(?) groups…

### C8

What’s Tum..tum..

### C7

So Tumblr is a bit like Messenger. It's sort of like…do you know how Reddit works?

### C8

No

### C7

You have like different pages and each page has like a category and someone put something and then you could talk about it. Lots of cartoonists use Tumblr to kick start their their drawing career.

### Researcher

It's also a site where they not terribly hot and identity. So that they are quite keen for people not necessary to say ‘Hi I'm C8’ or ‘Hi I’m Researcher’ or whatever.

### C7

So you can be anonymous.

### Researcher

You can be anonymous, whereas if you go on Facebook they’re trying to get you to be who you are. So there are differences. Do you think identity matters with social media?

### C8

Because if you just leave you like your proper name and stuff people can just…

### C7

… I think for it to be a social media you have to have an identity on that platform. I don't think it has to be you at all so you could be called ‘Chickenman’ and you wouldn't have to say your actual name but that would be your identity on that platform, if that makes sense?

### C8

[Indistinct] they have to have the option of being able to turn anonymous or something. If people want to put their real names out they can, but there needs to be the option of being able to hide your own identity.

### C7

And then also then this is another reason for Xbox to be a social media, so as C8 has just said you have to have the option to appear anonymous and while you can't really appear anonymous you can make it look like you're not on the Xbox at the time yes so you can appear offline and it would just pop up and off-line sign.

### Researcher

So you can make your status offline even though you're online?

### C7

Yes and then you can also put yourself on ‘do not disturb’ which is basically notifications aren’t gonna pop up so you can look to see if you had any notifications but they're not going to pop up and distract you.

### C8

If you get spammed by someone….

### C7

…you can just turn on ‘do not disturb’ and you'd still get them, they just go straight into your little inbox.

### Researcher

Well let me ask you another question. Presence is the ability to know that somebody is there now online now. If I go to Facebook I can easily see a list of my friends and they put a little green traffic light if they are on Facebook now and therefore I can send a text to get it. Do you think that's an important factor, or does it not matter, in the scheme of things, that you know I can send a message when they get it - they get it?

### C8

I don’t think it really matters.

### C7

I mean I think that it could be a thing but that you should have the ability to turn it off if you don't want all of your friends to know that you're online.

### C8

Something on WhatsApp says ‘last seen today on WhatsApp’.

### C7

Can you appear off-line on WhatsApp?

[Pause]

### Researcher

You can’t always control everying they want to share about you. So just before I get rid of that is there anything else that you’re unhappy about in terms of it being listed as a social media?

### C7

Games

### Researcher

So the games we don't like. I think C8 isn't happy about Mail. I think C7 was really unhappy about phone.

### C7

Yeah, I don't think phones are social media.

### Researcher

Are you happy that Messenger is a social media?

### C7

Yes

### Researcher

And YouTube, where did we end up with YouTube?

### C7

YouTube is a social media. I mean that's what I think.

### C8

I’m in the middle

### Researcher

C8 is unsure or not or ….

### C8

…because it can be used to talk to people, but the priority on YouTube is hosting and then watching videos

### Researcher

I think there is a difference between what the designers have wanted to make and how people actually use it.

### C7

Yes so do I. So I think YouTube was originally made so people could post their opinion on something and then people could talk about it in the comments section, but people have sort of gone away from that to posting games and such and such.

### Researcher

Have you ever made a comment on YouTube?

### C7

I have made several videos and comments…I mean usually its something like, ah ‘great video’. Something like that.

### C8

Cos you have to sign into YouTube cos … you can use like offline, but you can use it without signing in. So like if you watch a video it won’t come up on the views

### C7

No? Does it did not come up on the views? And then also you can't ‘like’ and comment if you're not signed in.

### C8

But I use YouTube signed out. I don’t see the point of signing in, unless you want to comment.

### C7

There is also a post.

### Researcher

Do you use Instagram?

### C7

I do use Instagram.

### Researcher

Have you ever seen TikTok?

### C7

I can't stand TikTok.

### C8

I have it.

### Researcher

Have you seen it?

### C7

I have seen it, and that's yeah no…no thanks! I just don't like … there’s just something about I don't like

### C8

It can be a bit cringey when people make weird dances

### C7

Yeah exactly I mean I don't mind like funny things but not when people try way too hard

### Researcher

Facebook?

### C7

I mean I use Facebook mainly to chat with team mates and look at funny jokes.

### Researcher

And Twitter we talked about and WhatsApp. Do you know about Skype.

### C7

Yes

### Researcher

Do you think Skype for social media?

### C7

Yes

### C8

It's primarily used to chat to other people.

### C7

And also you can sort of maintain a level of anonymity

### C8

Can you?

### C7

Yeah, because you can turn the camera off, I think. I could be wrong…

### Researcher

You can turn the camera off but actually if I was going to Skype you, I've got to know your number.

### C7

So can’t really meet new people!

### Researcher

Would you say Zoom, which is not on that list, because this was put together before lockdown, do you think Zoom is a social media?

### C8 and

Yes

### C7

Yes, I think it is. I also think Microsoft Teams…

### Researcher

…so anything which does that sort of job?

### C7

No, I think Microsoft Teams out of Zoom, Skype, Google Meets is the most social media like. Because you can have groups so I know that, so there's a group for an organisation that I'm in. And you can do calls and stuff, but then you can also chat and post things on the group. So I think it's yeah I think that Microsoft Teams is the most social media like out of all of the yes stuff people used to work.

### Researcher

Cause the problems that once you've logged out of Zoom, everything is lost. Whereas in Teams there’s a permeance.

### C7

Yes,

### Researcher

That was really helpful, really good thank you.

Next question I asked the youngsters was, what's the downside of using social media? What are the negatives? I'm going to show you in a second what they wrote, but I just wonder what would you say?

### C8

People can get cyberbullied.

### C7

Yeah, bullying. And also you can never be entirely sure that you're talking to the person you think you're talking to.

### C8

They could make up an account.

### C7

Yeah, so people do get catfished on stuff like Tinder which I think is also social media. Because people can post a fake profile picture.

### Researcher

Of course, you could say you’re tall, blonde or whatever and you’re really short and ginger. So the next user heard you talk about is bullying trying to be somebody you’re not. Is there anything else?

### C7

I'm not sure, I think it kind of takes away people's conversation skills cause if you're constantly typing away …and so and then also you can never really be sure that the tone of how they're saying it. So you sort of have to read it in like the blandest voice.

### Researcher

Jokes are very difficult to translate. I write a comment which is funny, you've read it as insulting. I didn't mean to insult you…

### C8

Like when you forget a comma or something. You have to try and understand [indistinct]

### C7

Which is why if I'm making a funny comment, I'd say it and then I always put ‘jokes’ after it.

### Researcher

The question I put the survey again was open ended, so I simply said what's the worst thing about social media in your opinion left it completely open ended. And firstly people didn't often give me one, they gave me half a dozen. What I've done is I've simply tried to group things together and I've ended up with … these were fairly even. Its not really one, two and three. They are about equal number of votes. So bullying cropped up. Receiving comments from strangers, receiving comments from people who they didn't want to receive comments from appeared a lot, and then issue of trust which I think is what you've just talked about C7, the idea that I trust this person, are they really who they say they are? The bit I missed off the questionnaire on the bullying side was, although I kept reading it, I was never quite sure whether these are people saying we've been bullied in life’s dreadful, or whether it's ‘my friend got bullied, but I've never been bullied’ or whether it was ‘we've heard the news, and in the lessons they say you get bullied over it and therefore it is what they thought they ought to put for an answer’. So even though they haven't experienced it. Do you have a sense from your friendship group whether it's a massive problem or whether it's just an occasional thing?

### C7

I think it is a problem. I have experienced bullying over the Internet. I think it is a problem and then also, you know, because you know, as just like its really weird being bullied over the Internet because like you can't really like do anything back? You just have to ignore it. And then most the most sites have like oh this person’s seen the message, so you still have just after like look at it, and then and then yeah then leave it because you don't really want to say anything back that’ll make it worse.

### Researcher

So do you think there are any effective strategies to reduce…

### C7

…I think blocking the person is a good strategy, or just like unfriending them so they can't message you. Because on Instagram, I know this is a thing, so basically if you send someone a message it basically sends them a message request with the message you’ve sent. And they have to be, ‘Oh, do I want to message this person?’

### C8

You could put your account on private so no one can text you…[indistinct]…only people who you’ve allowed to follow you. Coz the famous people on TikTok and stuff they just leave it open so anyway is that anyone can follow.

### C7

Because that’s how they get the most followers.

### Researcher

What do you think most of your age group do? Do you think most people run private accounts?

### C7

Yes so people that I know who use Instagram, and I'm going to use Instagram as example cause you can make public and private accounts, they have a public account where you know they post something and then they leave it up there for a few days and then they delete it so they don't get any weird comments from strangers. And then they also have a private Instagram that they only let their friends follow, and then they post things on there that their friends might want to see on how their day is going and stuff, and only their friends can see that. And they are just don't delete their posts.

### Researcher

So the bullying which might come about, will about on platforms which don't give you that sense of privacy. Somebody told me, and I must confess I'm no expert on Instagram in this respect, somebody said, on Instagram you can have a private account but you can still end up with comments from strangers. [Blank faces]. I haven’t come across that. OK, they did explain it to me …

### C7

…but I mean unless you have that private account and you've let that stranger follow you, they can’t …

### Researcher

…they weren't saying that. They said, it was a young girl I was talking about, let's say her name was Susan and she said, if somebody searches for Susan on Instagram they might stumble across me, though my account is private…

### C8

I think they can see your account, they just can't see your videos

### C7

Or any of your posts.

### Researcher

But they can still message her. So if you've decided to track down someone…

### C8

…[indistinct] but I don’t think it would pop up for her

### C7

I don’t think that’s a thing.

### Researcher

OK well but perhaps I misunderstood.

### C7

Right so you can definitely do that on public accounts because if you look up a person and you click on it says ‘follow’, ‘message’ and there’s a little arrow with ‘suggested pages’ because you've looked that account up. On a private account there's just a massive ‘follow button’. I mean you can see the profile picture. I don't think you can see anything else.

### Researcher

No. You can't then send a message, you don't think.

### C7

No. You can’t send a message no, you can see how many followers they have, how many people they’re following, you can't see those people that they’re following or are of following them and you … I think you can see how many posts they have, can’t look at them though.

### Researcher

Are you aware of comments from strangers being a particular issue to your friendship group? Is it just a rare occurrence?

### C7

I mean as someone who occasionally posts YouTube videos, I do naturally get comments from strangers.

### Researcher

Because you’ve left the comments section open.

### C7

And also because I might pop up in their recommended … although its either bots who just post a link and I usually just delete those coz I don't want my followers clicking on the link. And then also usually people who are ‘ah great channel, can you check my channel out please’. It’s usually stuff like that.

### Researcher

Which is a networking thing.

### C7

Then obviously my friends post funny things.

### Researcher

Is there anything while we've been talking has anything else popped into head as being a negative about social media beyond these things we've already talked about, is there anything else?

### C7

No, no not really.

### Researcher

Do schools mentioned anything?

### C7

Oh actually something I not a huge fan of social media is the fact that celebrities and stuff they also post like these things and they pay people to like, make them look really nice. And they have like lighting and stuff, a full-on studio. Then it sort of makes people feel really bad about themselves because they don't look as good. Because they just don't have the time and effort. Which is why most people use the sun as their lighting. You should know that evening light the sun's down and you get quite a nice light.

### Researcher

We’re nearly there. C8 remind me what year group your in.

### C8

Going into Year 8

### Researcher

And you’re going into Year 10.

### C7

That is correct.

### Researcher

Imagine somebody just a bit younger than you. And they've never used social media and they're thinking about doing it. Or they have used it a little bit, but they're not really experts. What advice would you give?

### C7

Don't get it unless you have someone who's on there that you can't reach anywhere else. So I only got… I used to just have Messages cause I’d just get people's phone numbers. And then I got Instagram because some people didn't have an iPhone that I wanted to speak to. So I had to use their DMs and then I got Snapchat coz there was a group chat with my camping group that I want to join. And I got Facebook because my American football team has a group on there and also I got WhatsApp around the same time as I got Instagram.

### Researcher

Your original comment was quite negative. Don't get it at all unless there's a need to. So are you really telling me that as far as you're concerned social media is such a drag, such a negative, or has no benefits…?

### C7

I mean it does have its benefits because…

### Researcher

… is it not fun and enjoyable and socialising and …

### C7

…no I'm not trying to say that. I'm just saying don't get caught up in like ‘I have to get every single type of social media’ ….

### C8

…[indistinct] just be aware there are risks. Just know what you can and can’t do.

### C7

Yes, so don't go overboard and start posting on everything like, just yes so basically just don't let people into your life kind of, yeah. I mean sure you can post a nice picture of a forest that you’re in, but don't like spend your whole day videoing yourself and then putting that out there.

### Researcher

Have you got people in your year group who do that?

### C7

Er, yes but only on like their private Snapchat stories.

### Researcher

What advice would you give C8?

### C8

I’d say similar to that. But, not that you don't get it unless you have a reason to. You can get it just to see other people, don't know, what their lives are like and stuff. But just be, just know that there are risks so just be careful of what you're do, and know what you’re doing before you do it.

### Researcher

You talked about risks twice now C8, which shows you’re aware. What's the biggest risks that you’re thinking of?

### C8

That people faking who they actually are and trying to get you to text them stuff about where you live, and what’s your life and what you do.

### C7

A lot of scammers who will lull you into [indistinct]…

### C8

…[indistinct] and then people sending you comments.

### C7

Yes, there’s always some who

### C8

yeah if you make a video on YouTube just say something stupid…

### C7

… just coz they can, because they want the attention.

### C8

Like on live streams. So I watch a YouTube that does livestreams everyday and there’s always this one …coz in YouTube you’ve moderators that can control the chat for you and there’s always someone there who’s so negative. So they just delete that message when they see them…

C7

Although usually…sorry were you going to say something?

C8

…but also people in a game they can make it custom so only subscribers can play and like there's a certain rule like only one gun or whatever. But then there's always [indistinct] who don't follow the rules and just spoil it for everyone.

### C7

And then usually they get kicked out, they get banned

### C8

Yeah but they were going to have friends they just do it, and they have so many friends they keep doing it one by one

### Researcher

You sort of wish they just got their own game.

### C7

And then usually it's … ohh also, another piece of advice is, don't believe everything you see because people I'm … I saw this thing and there was one famous celebrity who takes like 600 selfies a day to try and get the perfect selfie and they basically take the same selfie every single time … they are smiling in the camera, and it's like it's just ridiculous!

### Researcher

Is there anything else that you think we ought…you say don't believe everything you see. Are there any other things that we shouldn't necessarily believe, just because we've seen in social media? Other things that people put there which are untrue or incorrect, that you're aware of?

### C8

[Indistinct]

### C7

No

### Researcher

Fine. Last question. Is there anything you wish you understood about social media?

### C8

Why people bully and why they do it. What’s the reason?

### C7

Why are you mean to people on it?...

### C8

…bring other people down…

### C7

…exactly. Also, why do so many people feel the need to like fake things, you know.

### C8

Some people are mean just cause they want to show off in front of their friends. That's the main reason.

### C7

Yeah.

### C8

Actually their probably a really nice kid never does that, but just because their with their mates…

### C7

…and then also you get these people who are who are jealous that maybe, and like they think that you're going to take away one of their friends, so they try and drive you away in a sense and hopefully like you leave both of them

### C8

… jealousy…

### C7

… yeah and also sometimes it's how the people sometimes it's like an extended version of how the person feels about themselves, but like they don't like admit that that's how they feel about themselves, so they try and don't take it out on other people.

### Researcher

Have you heard of any concerns about the companies themselves the companies who own the platforms?

### C7

I'm not sure I just I just think that like the owners of the companies are just sort of say, ‘Oh please don’t do it’ and then obviously there is the ‘report’ function. If someone's bullying or are saying something rude and offensive and obviously you can block that person, but yeah because there's so many different kinds of social media, if like they know that you're on a certain type of social media as soon as you block them on one thing they’re going to pop up on another thing and that just keeps happening.

### Researcher

Do people take these issues to school, I mean in terms of trying to get school to sort it out?

### C8

There were these two girls who had something like a dance lesson outside of school and they bought in, and then there were these two groups; like ten girls on one side and ten girls on the other…

### Researcher

That became a big issue?

### C7

For some reason they like to drag other people into their issue hoping that you’ll like back them up, to try and make the other person feel small.

### Researcher

Do you think do you think people could be taught better about this, so they didn't behave badly?

### C7

I think people could be taught better about it. I don't think it would ever stop them.

### Researcher

No. Could we reduce it?

### C7

I think we could reduce it but I don't think it will stop … and obviously because it's outside of school and it because it's on the Internet it's not like an actual physical thing.

### C8

Because they’d never do it in real life, because they know they’d get in trouble. But on that they know they can speak freely.

### C7

Yeah. Keyboard Warriors! So I think it would … and also … so I know one of my friends is having a big issue with this and they took it to school and the school just sort of like ‘deal with it yourself’. Coz they’re adults and they … don’t really understand it, if that makes sense.

### C8

Because when they were young there wasn’t really social media.

### C7

Yeah. Whereas we’ve like grown up with it in a sense.

### Researcher

Let me add another question, and we will finish! What would you want to tell schools? What would you want schools to understand?

### C8

Research how social media works and know how to solve if people are bullied and how to make them be positive again…how to stop other people

### C7

And so maybe stop saying loads of really really bad things about social media. Because I know that’s a thing; they’re like social media’s bad, social media’s bad. And obviously some bits of it are, but then there's also really really good things about social media as well so I feel like they have to talk about the balance as well.

### C8

There’s lots of good things you can learn from social media

### C7

yeah you can

### Researcher

So what I'm hearing, tell me if that's what you said, is that the schools tend to simply warn about the bad the negatives, but actually there is a balance, which you're not getting.

### C7

Yeah, and its kind of like fear mongering in a sense. I think the schools just sort of talk about the really really bad things because they know the kids are gonna be mean to each other on the social media, and they don't really know how to deal with that. So the so they just think, ‘Oh well, if we scare them loads then they're not gonna get it and we won't have to deal with it’. But I think you should let kids have social media, just teach them like about like how to be nice on social media and not bully and I think that's really difficult but I feel like that that's the thing that has to be done.

### Researcher

OK. I’m going to go back to the very first question, as the final question. If somebody said what is social media? I need a definition. Could you, just because you’ve spent a good half hour chewing it over, what's your definition now? It may be exactly the same

### C8

A way to socialise with other people

### Researcher

Thank you C8!

### C7

I think it's a way to share your opinion and talk to other people, through like any means of talking but then like you should be able to talk to people using your voice and then also typing which is why telephones are not social media…

### Researcher

…just want to get in there…

### C7

… yes.

### Researcher

Telephones are not social media, when they are being used as phones.

### C7

Yes