



abuse of technology



Wall

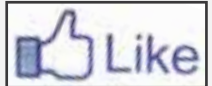
Info

Photos

Video

Who wants Miss to die?

Attach:



Developments in technology have transformed the learning experience for pupils and made significant improvements to the working lives and practices of many teachers.

NASUWT research confirms that there is a growing problem of abuse of technology in the education service, particularly the cyberbullying of teachers.

* Comment posted by a 12 year old as reported in the NASUWT 2015 Annual Big Question Survey.



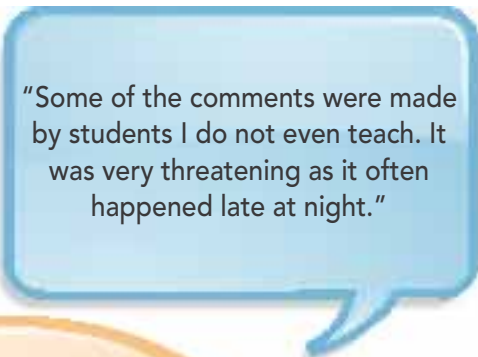
Click Like^{*}

Abuse of technology is exacerbating excessive workload, leading to harassment of teachers and providing a vehicle for false and malicious allegations.

The NASUWT has a record second to none for supporting teachers in securing the removal of offensive postings, advising on potential redress, providing appropriate legal advice and making representations to employers to safeguard teachers' interests.



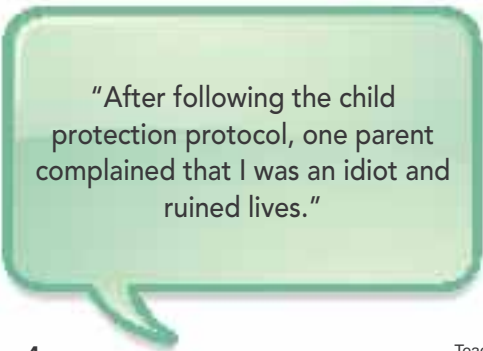
"Comments were made on my competency which were also sectarian and threatening."



"Some of the comments were made by students I do not even teach. It was very threatening as it often happened late at night."



"Made very insulting comments directed at my son on a regular basis."



"After following the child protection protocol, one parent complained that I was an idiot and ruined lives."



"Pupils made untrue allegations about me concerning drug abuse."



E-mail Abuse

Over a third of teachers report receiving work-related e-mails from senior staff outside working hours, with an expectation that they will respond in their own time.



Abuse by pupils

39%

of teachers had
insulting comments or
information about
them posted on social
networks by pupils.

32%

had videos/photos
taken without their
consent.

50%

had comments
posted about
their performance
as a teacher.

43%

did not report
incidents of abuse
because they felt
no action would
be taken.

62%

of the comments
were on Facebook.

21%

of the comments
were on Twitter.

50%

of teachers had
insulting comments
made about them by
parents.

67%

received abusive
comments about
their performance
as a teacher.

17%

had allegations
of threatening
behaviour made
against them.

50%

saw no action taken
against parents.

67%

of the comments
were on Facebook.

50%

of the comments
were on
RateMyTeacher.

**Abuse
by
parents**

What you can do



Contact the NASUWT immediately for advice and support if you are the victim of abuse of technology by pupils, parents or school management.



Read the NASUWT Keeping Safe Checklist for Staff which can be accessed on www.nasuwt.org.uk/KeepingSafe.



Check your school has a procedure/protocol for the use of technology which includes provisions to protect staff. Contact the NASUWT for advice and support if your school has an inadequate or no policy/procedure.



Check your school's pupil behaviour policy to make sure that it contains clear statements on the sanctions which will be taken in the event of pupils and parents using technology to abuse staff.

Make sure that your school has a protocol on the use and abuse of e-mails. The NASUWT online guidance can be found on www.nasuwt.org.uk/useofemail.

Quick Tips

Never give parents or pupils your personal mobile phone number or e-mail address.



Do not give your consent for your school to publish your personal mobile phone number or e-mail address.

Never accept 'friend' requests from parents or pupils on your personal accounts or accept requests from them to follow you.



Check carefully who can access your personal account details and content. Treat all content as public until you are sure.



Be cautious about what you post on friends' sites. Their profile may not be set to private.



Think carefully about having discussions or passing comments on social media about the school in which you are employed.

Always report any incidents of abuse to a member of the senior management and to the NASUWT.

The NASUWT is campaigning to secure:



a review of regulatory and legislative provision to prevent allegations being made about named teachers on internet sites and to secure more accessible avenues of redress for those who are exposed to public ridicule and false allegations;



a statutory requirement on schools to have policies which promote zero tolerance of cyberbullying;



intervention by government to ensure schools take the issues seriously;



the inclusion of reference to the use and abuse of technology in health and safety good-practice guidance and in all workplace health and safety audits, including risk assessments.

For further information
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All calls are treated in the strictest confidence.

The largest teachers' union in Northern Ireland

NASUWT

The Teachers' Union
NORTHERN IRELAND

