



# Fake news, real consequences

## Report on student workshops in Dover

Between April and September 2025, SINCE 9/11 was awarded funding from the Community Cohesion and Resilience Fund (CCRF) to deliver student workshops, *Fake News, Real Consequences*, in the Dover District.



The sessions used actual case studies to explore how online mis- and disinformation can spread, and how it can have real world consequences. Young people were given an understanding of how their adolescent brains process information, why we tend to zone in on what we find threatening and how online media exploits this. Young people have also been given the tools to review and assess sources of online information and knowledge about the potential legal consequences of posting and sharing disinformation online.

We delivered **34 workshops** (between 45 and 90 mins long) to **941 secondary age students**. We also delivered an online CPD session reaching **18 teachers** from across Dover Council.



Of the **526** young people who completed the evaluation at the end of the workshops:

- **85%** felt that their understanding of how harmful views can be spread online increased.
- **85%** felt that their confidence to respond appropriately to mis- and disinformation online increased.
- **91%** felt that they were more confident in being able to identify online mis and disinformation.
- **91%** had an increased understanding of the law related to spreading mis-information and disinformation online.
- **90%** felt they improved their understanding of the potential legal consequences of spreading mis-information and disinformation online.

## Student feedback

It was fun, engaging and showed us lots of information to help us with fake news

I found it interesting to find out how much fake news there is out there, and that there are so many different types. From now on, I will always look up any fact I hear.



It was eye-opening!

It was fun, creative and insightful and opened me up to a new perspective

The session was very informative. I learned a lot about mis, dis and malinformation, and the legal consequences.

It was very good because it tells us about the warnings and consequences and how dangerous social media is.

## Teacher feedback

I wanted to thank you again for delivering such engaging, interesting and informative talks about Fake News. The students thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and came away with a much better understanding of Fake News and the Real Consequences. Our parents and prospective parents who saw some of your talks during our Open Morning really appreciated these also and constantly said how important and brilliant it was that our students were receiving these sessions, which I wholeheartedly agree. Your talks really made an impact, and I am confident it will help the students make informed choices and think critically, a skill we are always wanting our students to engage in. Additionally, the students found the delivery interesting and really liked interacting with you.

Head of PSHCE and E3 Programme Coordinator, Sir Roger Manning School

It was great how you got our young people engaged in some important discussions. Really nice, kind and friendly staff who definitely know their stuff.

Head youth worker, Crosslinks



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