



- f* **12% of European 9-16 year olds say that they have been bothered or upset by something on the internet.** This includes 9% of 9-10 year olds. However, most children do not report being bothered or upset by going online.
- f* **Risks are not necessarily experienced by children as upsetting or harmful.** For example, **seeing sexual images and receiving sexual messages online** are encountered by one in eight children but they are generally not experienced as harmful except by a few of the children who are exposed to them.
- f* **By contrast, being bullied online** by receiving nasty or hurtful messages is relatively uncommon, experienced by one in twenty children, but it is the risk most likely to upset children.
- f* **Further, only 1 in 12 children have met an online contact offline, and also this risk rarely has a harmful consequence, according to children.**
- f* Boys, especially teenagers, are more exposed to sexual images online, while teenage girls are slightly more likely to receive nasty or hurtful messages online. However, **girls are generally more likely to be upset by the risks they experience.**
- f* The survey asked about a range of risks, as detailed below. Looking across all these risks, **41% of European 9-16 year olds have encountered one or more of these risks.**
- f* **Risks increase with age:** 14% of 9-10 year olds have encountered one or more of the risks asked about, rising to 33% of 11-12 year olds, 49% of 13-14 year olds and 63% of 15-16 year olds.

## Pornography

- f* **14% of 9-16 year olds have in the past 12 months seen images online that are “obviously sexual –**

## Meeting online contacts offline

- f* The **most common risky activity** reported by children online is communicating with new people not met face-to-face. **30% of European children aged 9-16 who use the internet have communicated in the past with someone they have not met face-to-**

*f* Both children and parents consider parental mediation helpful, especially 9-12 year olds.

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