

# ***Pornography and young people***

**0 to 19**  
**TORBAY**  
*for you*

Young people sometimes turn to pornography to understand what sex is.

It is natural to be curious but porn isn't the best source of information.



## Things to know

- Porn is not how people have sex or relationships - it is not based on reality.
- Porn does not generally feature or model consent - more often, it models exploitation, power imbalances and a very one-sided view.
- Consent is more subtle and is a process, not just a yes/no, and not just once. It is rare to see it in pornography.
- Most children who view pornography find it disturbing and aggressive, but suggest that it had influenced their sexual behaviours and expectations.
- Porn has been strongly associated with gender-based violence, racism, ableism and homophobia.
- Porn is increasingly shared, created and normalised amongst young people.
- It can be easily accessed through any smartphone or social media platform such as Snapchat, Tiktok, Instagram, etc.

## Talk about...

### Some areas to discuss could be:

- What is a healthy relationship?
- What does consent look and feel like?
- What would someone who respected you do and not do, what would you do and not do?



### Did you know?

Sharing images with other young people - whether they are of yourself or someone else is illegal - even if they gave permission. Know the law on sharing images, as well as considering the impact on others.

Young people are not responsible for the behaviour of others and if they have experienced any type of sexual abuse, it is not their fault.