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| **Objective:**  Tounderstand that online friends are not always trustworthy or who they say they are. |
| **Activity:**  This activity is useful in helping young people to consider who their friends are, and whether these friends are known offline, online, or both. Establishing which category each friend belongs to can then pave the way for further discussion about friendship and trustworthiness.  The activity can be run in a number of different ways depending on the needs of your pupils, but the main objective is to sort friends via a Venn diagram:  **Ways to sort the friends could be as follows:**   * Write the names/usernames of these people on the blank Venn diagram that accompanies this activity * Use two hoops and write names on cards/take photos of people and place them in the correct section of the diagram * Complete the Venn diagram worksheet on a computer, where they can copy and paste photos from sites/services they may use or type the names into the sections.   People I only know **online**  People I only know **offline**  **People I know online & offline**  **Offline only friends** will likely include some family members, school staff, school friends and people they know from other offline settings. **Online only friends** may include the actual names of people or usernames/Gamer tags. **Online & Offline friends** will likely include school friends and some family members.  Asking pupils to collect photos of their friends can be a useful exercise as it can highlight that for some people they know online they may not have a photo to identify them! The only image they have might be an in-game character or avatar or a profile picture. This can be useful when it comes to discussing whether someone is trustworthy.  Once pupils have sorted their friends it is important to discuss the differences between the groups. It is important for pupils to know that:   * Purely online contacts may not be truthful about who they are; they can give false information and share fake pictures/photos. * People sometimes behave differently online than they do offline (e.g. they could appear more confident/more argumentative/less polite etc.) * One key characteristic of a friend is to be trustworthy; if pupils have not met a person face to face offline then that online ‘friend’ is still a stranger, and should be treated in that manner. * Young people should never agree to meet up offline with someone they only know online.   This activity can be used to also discuss what other qualities a good friend should have. It can also be used in conjunction with other activities related to [‘SAFE’](http://www.childnet.com/resources/star-toolkit/safe) in terms of who they share personal information with. |
| **Key Vocabulary:** |