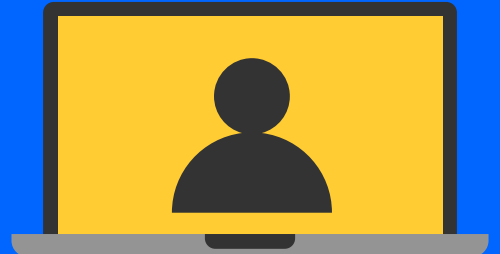


# Vulnerable Children in a digital world

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## Research findings

An estimated two million children considered to be the most vulnerable in society\*

## Identifying issues they face

### Cyberbullying

Children in care and young carers are **almost twice as likely to be cyberbullied** than children who aren't



### Seeing content promoting self-harm, anorexia and suicide

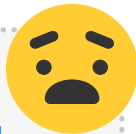
Over **one in four (27%)** of children with Special Educational Needs often view sites promoting self-harm **compared to 17% of peers**

### Sexting

Young people with hearing loss were **more likely than peers with no difficulties** to be involved in sexting



### Impact on digital wellbeing



Young people with hearing loss were **five times more likely** to say that the 'internet often left me with thoughts and feelings that were upsetting'

### Screen time

Those with learning difficulties were **one third more likely** to spend **more than 5 hours per day** online than peers



### Cyberscams

**One third more likely** to have their social media account hacked



## Supporting vulnerable children online

### What should be done?

- **Develop specialist training and tools** across all sectors to draw on the on the ability to identify the most likely online issues facing the highest risk children and trigger early intervention
- **More intensive** online safety education and support for these children

\*Source: Children's Commissioner's office

Research based responses from 2,988 of these young people aged 10 to 16. It was carried out as part of The Cybersurvey is an annual survey of young people's views and online experiences run by Youthworks from 2008 -2018.