RSHE (PSHE) - Respectful relationships: Recognising and reporting criminal behaviour within relationships

Controlling behaviour and coercive control

Downloadable Resource

Mrs Smith



Joseph and Nicky

Joseph and Nicky have just started a relationship. Joseph is still not ready to tell everyone yet so asks Nicky if it can be a secret to begin with. Nicky agrees as he really likes Joseph.

Nicky likes to surprise Joseph at home so that they can walk to school together.

They both still have different interests; Joseph is keen to do well in his exams so attends lots of revision classes after school and Nicky is in the local football team. Nicky always like to message Joseph to check how he is and when he is leaving so they can walk home together.

2 months into the relationship Joseph catches Nicky on his phone, Nicky questions him why he is still following other people on social media. Nicky explains he feels quite upset that perhaps Joseph is still looking for someone else to be in a relationship with. Joseph offers to delete some of his online friends and Nicky thanks him. Joseph knows this will make Nicky feel more secure and make their relationship more solid.

Highlight any examples of controlling behaviour

