

EXERCISE 1: PROVING YOUR STORY IS REAL

- Imagine your friend has told you a story this morning about something dramatic that happened on their way to school. How do you know if it is true or not? Your friend says it is, but is anyone else saying so? Did anyone else see it? What would you do to check? Who might you ask? Where could you look online to find out more?
- Now it's your turn to create an imaginary story about something happening in your school or local area. It can be as dramatic as you like. (For example, perhaps your head teacher was once in a boy or girl band, or your town is the location for a film with Jennifer Lawrence and everyone in the school gets to take part – be as imaginative as you like!)

When you have thought up your story, add at least 3 bits of truth to it.

Don't tell anyone what your story is about!

- now swap stories with another student.
- With your new story, imagine you are a reporter who has to publish this story tonight. It's important that when you write it up it is completely correct. So first, you have to check if the entire story is true, or is some or all of it made up and fake.

In your notebooks write down the following:

- What steps do you need to take to find out if it is true or false?
- Which other people do you need to talk to get more details?
- What evidence do you need?
- Where did this story come from?
- What was the purpose of this story?
- What would be the impact on you publishing the story without knowing if it is real or not?
- What is your role in sharing false and fake stories?
- What are the 3 true facts that you have found amongst the fake ones?