

I HEARD A RUMOUR

Play 'Chinese Whispers' with the young people. Explain to the group that the aim of the game is to repeat what they think they heard. Encourage the person starting the game to use a story or a statement rather than just a word and ensure that everyone in the group has the opportunity to pass it on. Ask the last person to say what they heard followed by the pupil who started the statement. Compare the differences between the actual story or statement and the end result. Discussion Points:

- Has the story changed? Why does a story change? Allow the young people to realise that people often exaggerate, adding to, changing or leaving out parts to a story, to make a story funnier or more interesting. People also fill in gaps in a story to make it more believable or they may only remember some of the details.
- What influences how we interpret information?
- How do we know if a story is true or accurate? What if we hear different versions of the same story?
- What is the danger of not knowing the truth?
- What is a rumour? What harm can come from believing or repeating a rumour?
- Can they think of any rumours or misinformation that may have been spread about groups of people in society?
- What fuels this misinformation? Where do we get our opinions about groups of people from?
- What can we do to check the accuracy of the information we receive? Why is it so important for us to check our facts before believing any information we receive