

**WATCH
YOUR
LANGUAGE**



Thank you for all your contributions to the Watch Your Language Charter.

On Monday, the School Council met to pull together ideas from across the school.

The Charter is now being finalised and will become the touchstone for how we speak to each other in school.

Watch this space!

This was all happening when the impact of racist language hit the headlines.



**Impact on
others.**

What is the impact of offensive language?

Last week Azeem Rafiq testified to MPs about his personal experience of racism when playing cricket for Yorkshire.

Here's a [clip](#) of his testimony. Let's watch the first 2 minutes.

Rafiq has been widely praised for his courage in speaking out, and his actions have prompted major debates throughout the world of cricket and sport.



Later in the same week

Azeem Rafiq apologises for historical anti-Semitic Facebook messages

Azeem Rafiq has apologised and said he is "deeply ashamed" for using anti-Semitic language in Facebook messages from 2011.

Former spinner Rafiq has spoken of his experiences of racism at Yorkshire and appeared at a Digital, Culture, Media and Sport select committee this week.

The 30-year-old said he had "absolutely no excuses" for the messages.

"I am incredibly angry at myself and apologise to the Jewish community," he said in a statement.



Discussion

What can we learn from last week's focus on the impact of offensive language?

What issues have been raised by last week's events?

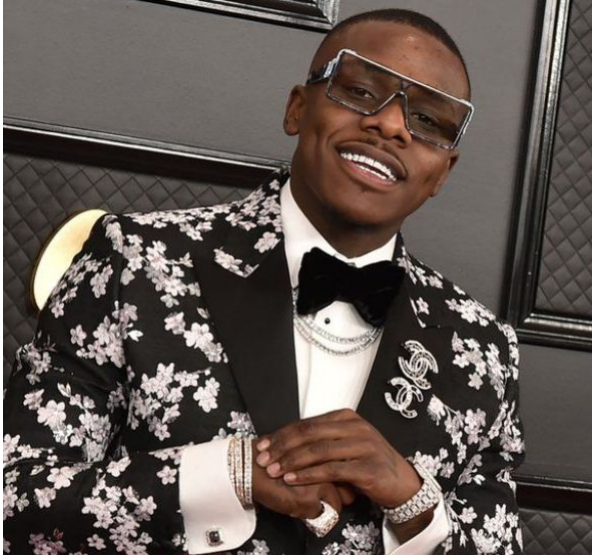
What lessons can we also learn about the use of social media - and the legacy it leaves?

The **legacy**
of our
language.

Cancel culture:

Modern form of ostracism (excluding someone) in which someone is pushed out of social or professional circles – whether it be online, on social media or in person.

Da Baby



Made **homophobic comments** during a live concert. He was dropped by major sponsors, taken off headliner lists for the festivals he was set to perform at.

Chrissy Teigen



Cyber-bullied other celebrities many years ago. Criticised for sending messages such as 'I can't wait for you to die.' Teigen has since stepped down from her television role and her brand when her comments came to **WYL*** light.

Ollie Robinson



Wrote a series of tweets between the years 2012–2014 that were **sexist, racist, homophobic, Islamophobic and disablist**. He served an 8 match ban and a £3200 fine. He also is working to educate others on the use, and legacy, of comments made on social media.

Steve Allen



Made **misogynistic** comments as he referred to Tilly Ramsay as a 'chubby little thing.' He followed with '[it's] probably her dad's cooking', whilst she was competing on Strictly Come Dancing. He received nearly 1000 complaints. **WYL***

Final questions and thoughts

How do our words have a legacy?

How can we ensure that the legacy of our language is positive?

How can we call each other out if we hear language being used negatively, or to cause harm or discriminate?

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Call It Out

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