

Note for parents: This activity is designed to help young people understand how our identity can be stolen and why it's important to keep our personal information safe. Ask your young person to read the information on this sheet, completing the tasks as they go.

PROTECTING YOUR IDENTITY

Ages 14-16

Activity Idea

We are all unique. We all have our own 'identity' that makes us, US! Our family and friends know us well, but perhaps 'friends' on social networking sites know us less well... and how well do we really know them?

Consider the following question:

How would someone work out who you are?

Write down **5** things that someone could use to find out your identity. Did you know that all of the following things can be used to help identify you?

• Bank statement	• Social media	• Bills
• Payslip	• DNA	• Friends and family

Personal documentation and information is hugely important. Banks, mobile phone operators and other organisations use this personal documentation and information to identify you. It is usually cross-referenced with passwords and a personal identification number (your PIN) to make sure that you are who you say you are.

But if we don't take care and protect this information we can allow someone else to steal our identity and use it for criminal purposes.

Watch the following video clip and then talk through your response with your friends and family. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mLJQKIs7j9o&feature=player_embedded

You could use the following questions to help your discussion:
How did the video make you feel? Were you aware that your identify could be stolen in this way? How do you think the woman in the video clip could have protected her identity?

If you're a victim of identity theft, it can lead to fraud that can have a direct impact on your personal finances and could also make it difficult for you to obtain loans, credit cards or a mortgage until the matter is resolved.

One way to keep your personal information secure is to have a strong password. Try creating one using this process... remember not to tell anyone what it is though!

Use a paraphrase e.g. I always like to eat cornflakes for breakfast
Then convert it into a password e.g. !a12ecfb

What would your top 3 tips be for keeping your identify safe? Write these down or if you would like to share your learning with others, why not create a blog or design a poster.