



## Discriminatory language unacceptable online and in real life The Anne Frank Trust UK

The Anne Frank Trust believes the use of inappropriate language and behaviour online by celebrities including Jack Maynard provides a stark lesson for young people growing up with social media, highlighting how susceptible they are to cyber-bullying and pressure to behave in certain ways, and how every post they make leaves a permanent footprint.

Lucy Glennon, Director of Strategy at the Trust says: "Young people growing up today, who have never known a world without social media, are something of a pioneer generation: they are having to negotiate a world in which their every posted utterance and shared image will identify them forever - something previous generations have not had to consider. Role models for young people should not therefore be setting the example that the language of prejudice and discrimination is OK - it is not.

"The Anne Frank Trust is aware of the exposure young people face to hate speech online - it's why we've developed an education programme that encourages young people's awareness and critical thinking when using social media, nurturing their development as resilient and responsible digital citizens, and ensuring they leave behind them an online footprint and record of behaviour of which they can be proud.

"Young people should think about everything they post, just as they would think about everything they say aloud to a group of people. Using discriminatory language is never acceptable, but we accept that through education, people can change their attitudes."

End

For further info:

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Notes to editors:

### About The Anne Frank Trust UK

Prejudice and discrimination harms individuals, communities and society. The Anne Frank Trust UK is an education charity. We use Anne Frank's life and diary to empower young people with the knowledge, skills and confidence to challenge all forms of prejudice and discrimination.

We partner with schools, local authorities, criminal justice education services and others, to deliver education to young people in a variety of settings, predominantly in schools. Our interactive and impactful programme includes an exhibition of Anne Frank's life and diary combined with workshops, peer education and an ambassador programme.

The Anne Frank Trust UK was established in 1991 by family and friends of Otto Frank, following his wish for an educational organisation to be set up in memory of his daughter Anne. [www.annefrank.org.uk](http://www.annefrank.org.uk)