KS2 Home learning: Influences and decisions

Parents: read our helpful guidance before you start





Play this slideshow from beginning



Remember! You can use your own paper to do the activities on, or type on the worksheets. You don't have to print them off.



We are learning about what influences our opinions and decision-making



We will be able to:

- Identify who or what may influence our opinions or decisions.
- Recognise situations where people may be positively or negatively influenced.
- Identify steps we can take to manage negative influences on our opinions or decisions.

Influences on opinions and decisions

We all have opinions about things and these can affect the decisions we make. Some of our opinions and the decisions we make may be a result of someone or something influencing us.

Influence means when someone or something affects someone else's opinions or decisions.

What's our starting point?

Make a list of **who** or **what** you think might influence a person's opinions or decisions, (e.g. parents, family members, teachers).



Influences on opinions and decisions

Your list might look similar to this...

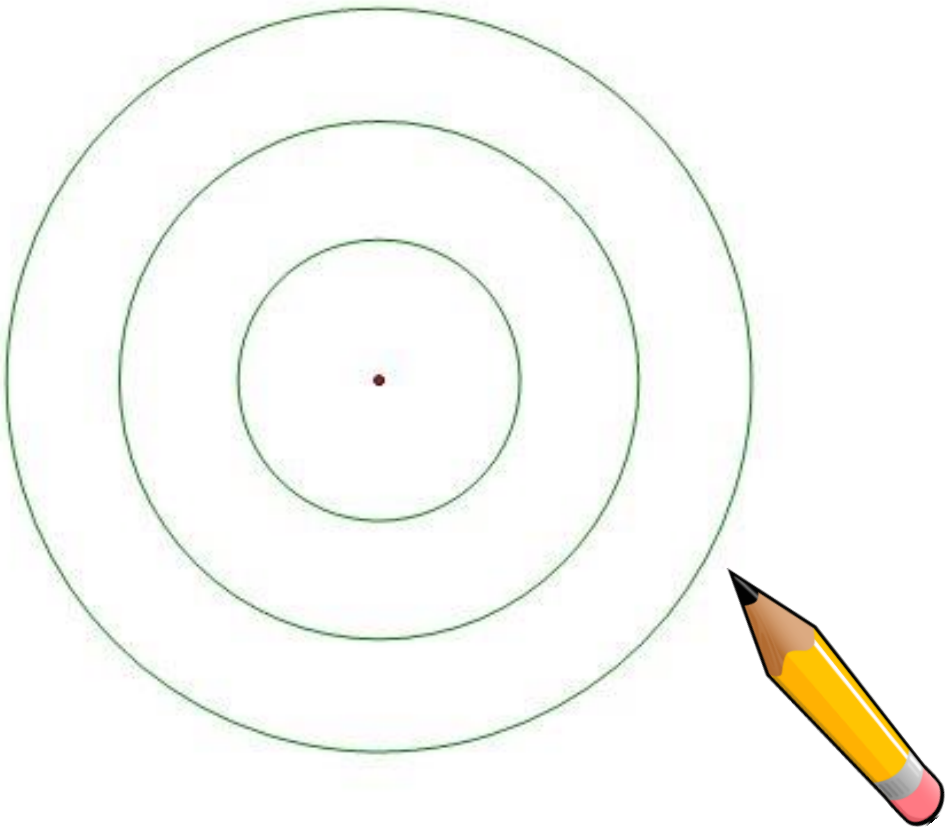
Who might influence someone	**What** might influence someone
• Parents/carers • Sisters/brothers • Faith leaders (priest, imam, rabbi) • Best friend, friends • Teachers • Grandparents • Aunties/Uncles • Pop stars/celebrities	• School • Advertising on TV or online • Online content (e.g. social media) • TV programmes • Video games • A story someone is told about something

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People and things that influence us

Who and what are the influences in your life?

Draw three circles like the ones below



In the centre, draw or write the people and things that you think most influence your opinions and decisions.

In the next ring, draw or write the people and things that you think have some influence, but not as much as the those you put in the centre.

In the outer ring, draw or write the people and things that have some influence, but not very much.

Positive influences on opinions and decisions



Influences can be positive and can help us:

- ✓ **make good decisions/choices**
- ✓ **recognise what is right and what is wrong**
- ✓ **to feel confident about ourselves and the things we do**

Can you think of any other ways in which people or things might influence us?

Share your ideas with a family member.

Giving opinions and recognising consequences

Read these situations (on **Resource 1** in your worksheet pack).

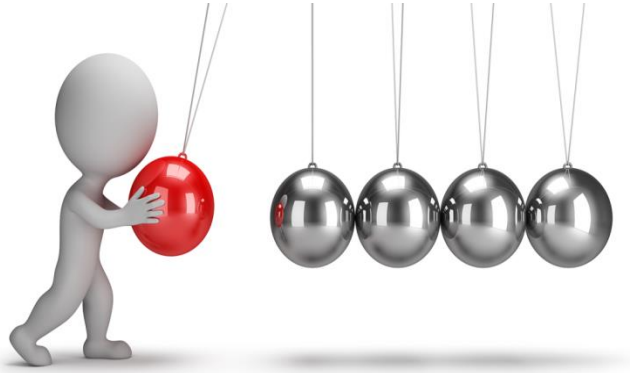
Put a tick in the columns to show the extent to which you agree or disagree *(you can type on the sheet or print it off).*

Statements	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
It is ok to tell a lie to someone, as long as they don't find out.	☐	☐	☐	☐
If someone finds 50p down the back of the sofa, it is acceptable for them to keep it for themselves.	☐	☐	☐	☐
If someone saw a £20 note sticking out of a cash machine on the street, it would be okay for them to take the note and put it in their pocket.	☐	☐	☐	☐
10 years old is too young to own a smartphone.	☐	☐	☐	☐
If someone accidentally loses or breaks something that doesn't belong to them, they should tell the person it belongs to immediately.	☐	☐	☐	☐
Everyone should be paid the same amount of money, no matter what their job is (e.g. teachers, footballers, shopkeepers).	☐	☐	☐	☐

Underneath each one, or on a separate piece of paper, write the reasons for your opinion, including any consequences or ways in which people might be affected by each statement or action.

Giving opinions and recognising consequences

Sometimes, it is clear when something is right or wrong and lots of people will agree, but other times it can be difficult to know what to do and people might have very different opinions.



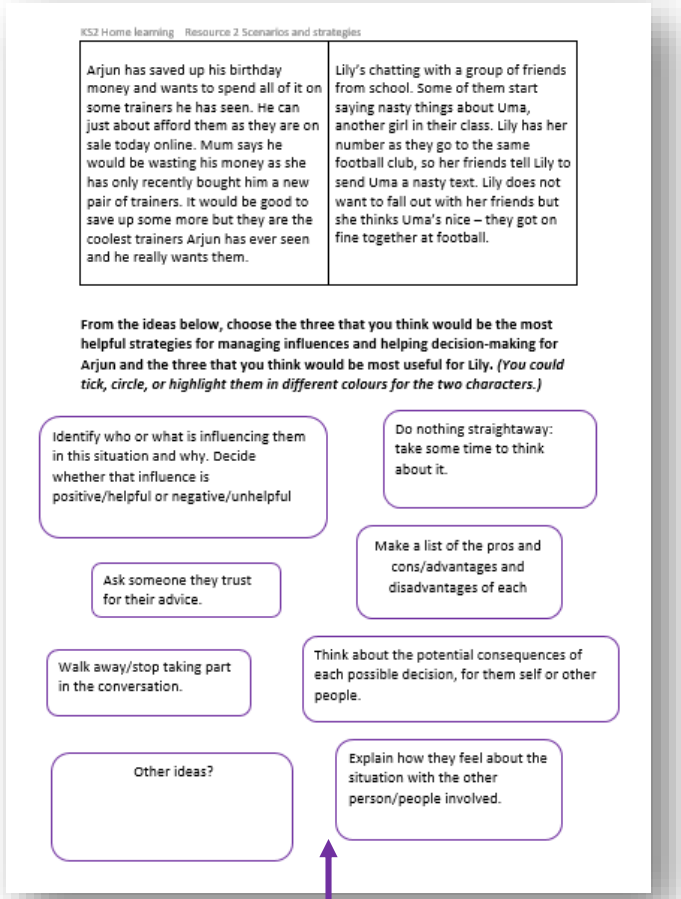
Thinking about the possible consequences, and how our actions affect others, can be one way to help us decide what to do.

Managing influences and making decisions

Read the stories about Arjun and Lily in **Resource 2** in your worksheet pack. Below the stories are some ways of managing influences to help decision-making.

Choose the three strategies that you think would be the most helpful for Arjun and the three that you think would be most helpful for Lily. There is a space for you to add your own ideas.

Did you choose different ideas for each person?
Are there any strategies that would always help, in all of the situations?


KS2 Home learning Resource 2 Scenarios and strategies

Arjun has saved up his birthday money and wants to spend all of it on some trainers he has seen. He can just about afford them as they are on sale today online. Mum says he would be wasting his money as she has only recently bought him a new pair of trainers. It would be good to save up some more but they are the coolest trainers Arjun has ever seen and he really wants them.	Lily's chatting with a group of friends from school. Some of them start saying nasty things about Uma, another girl in their class. Lily has her number as they go to the same football club, so her friends tell Lily to send Uma a nasty text. Lily does not want to fall out with her friends but she thinks Uma's nice – they got on fine together at football.

From the ideas below, choose the three that you think would be the most helpful strategies for managing influences and helping decision-making for Arjun and the three that you think would be most useful for Lily. ***(You could tick, circle, or highlight them in different colours for the two characters.)***

Identify who or what is influencing them in this situation and why. Decide whether that influence is positive/helpful or negative/unhelpful

Do nothing straightaway: take some time to think about it.

Make a list of the pros and cons/advantages and disadvantages of each

Ask someone they trust for their advice.

Walk away/stop taking part in the conversation.

Think about the potential consequences of each possible decision, for them self or other people.

Other ideas?

Explain how they feel about the situation with the other person/people involved.

You could tick, circle, or highlight them in different colours for the two characters.

Remember!

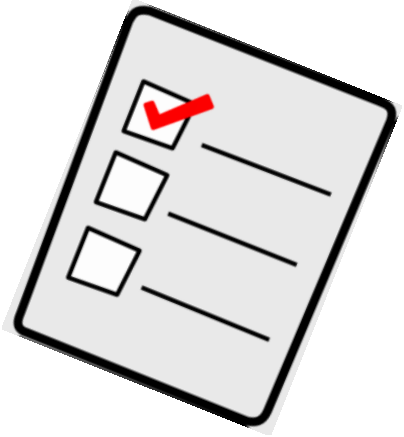
- In different situations, some influences are stronger than others.
- Influences can be positive or helpful in some cases and negative or unhelpful in others.
- We can use different strategies in different situations, to manage influences that might affect our decisions.



But it is always a good idea to consider:

- ✓ who or what may be influencing our decisions,
- ✓ whether the influence is helpful or unhelpful
- ✓ why they might be trying to influence us (e.g. because they really want to help us, or to encourage us to spend money on something)

What have you learned?



Now go back to the list you made at the beginning of who or what you think might influence a person's opinions and decisions.

Add in any new ideas you have about:

- what influences people's opinions and decisions
- how situations may be influenced both positively and negatively
- different ways in which influences can be managed to help with decision-making

More activities

- **Write a message** to Arjun or Lily, giving them advice about how to make the best decision they can.
- **Write your own story** about someone who has to consider and manage different influences on them and make a decision about what to do.

