Create a Safer School Environment by Addressing Bullying and Cyberbullying.

While there are a number of reasons behind school violence, bullying and/or cyberbullying can play a contributing role in some cases. Bullying is widespread in the United States, and the behavior can threaten students’ physical and emotional safety as well as impact their social and academic success at school.

Educators, school staff, and parents can help students prevent bullying by talking about it, building a safe school environment, and creating a community-wide bullying prevention strategy. Districts and schools should also adopt school climate initiatives and support for digital citizenship and positive character development, as well as procedures for monitoring student behavior in school and online to identify at-risk behaviors and provide interventions before they create safety issues.

Resources

SchoolSafety.gov offers resources, programs, and tools school communities can use to establish and maintain bullying and prevention strategies in the classroom, on school grounds, and online.

Bullying

- **StopBullying.gov**: This interagency website provides information and resources on bullying, cyberbullying, prevention, and response.
- **Preventing Bullying**: This webpage provides background information on bullying, including bullying statistics in the United States, as well as prevention strategies to stop bullying before it starts.
- **KnowBullying Mobile App**: Through this app, parents, caregivers, and educators can find information to start conversations with children, share successful bullying prevention strategies, recognize the signs of bullying, and support children who are being bullied.
- **Assessing Capacity for Bullying Prevention and Implementing Change**: This evidence-informed and evidence-based resource package provides professionals working to prevent bullying with tools to assess their environment’s current capacity to address bullying and to determine where there may be gaps and needs.
- **The Relationship Between Bullying and Suicide: What We Know and What It Means for Schools**: This resource provides school administrators, teachers, and other school staff with concrete, action-oriented information based on the latest science to help improve schools’ understanding of and ability to prevent and respond to bullying.
- **Measuring Bullying Victimization, Perpetration, and Bystander Experiences: A Compendium of Assessment Tools**: This compendium provides the school community with tools to measure a range of bullying experiences, including assessing self-reported incidents and the prevalence of bullying.

Cyberbullying

- **Cyber Safety Considerations for K-12 Schools and School Districts**: This fact sheet provides guidance to educators, administrators, parents, and law enforcement officials on various online threats to students, including cyberbullying.
- **Cyberbullying in Schools: Meta-Analysis Finds That Tailored Programming Protects Students**: This report synthesizes findings from Federal research done on school programs specifically designed to prevent or curb cyberbullying.
- **Dealing with Cyberbullies**: These tips and recommendations outline what cyberbullying is, why it has become a problem, and how to protect students.
- **Tips for Teachers**: This webpage provides information for teachers, school personnel, and staff to identify warning signs a child is being cyberbullied or is cyberbullying, as well as strategies to prevent and address it.