



Kentucky Center for School Safety
www.kysafeschools.org

Suggestions for Educators

Cyberbullying

- Educate your students, teachers, and other staff members about cyber bullying, its dangers, and what to do if someone is cyberbullied.
- Be sure that your school's anti-bullying rules and policies address cyber bullying.
- Closely monitor students' use of computers at school.
- Use filtering and tracking software on all computers, but don't rely solely on this software to screen out cyber bullying and other problematic on-line behavior.
- Investigate reports of cyber bullying immediately. If cyber bullying occurs through the school district's Internet system, you are obligated to take action. If the cyber bullying occurs off-campus, *consider what actions you might take* to help address the bullying:
 - Notify parents of victims and parents of cyberbullies of known or suspected cyber bullying.
 - Notify the police if the known or suspected cyber bullying involves a threat.
 - Closely monitor the behavior of the affected students at school for possible bullying.
 - Talk with all students about the harms caused by cyber bullying. Remember — cyber bullying that occurs off-campus can travel like wildfire among your students and can affect how they behave and relate to each other at school.
 - Investigate to see if the victim(s) of cyber bullying could use some support from a school counselor or school-based mental health professional.
- Contact the police immediately if known or suspected cyber bullying involves acts such as:
 - Threats of violence
 - Extortion
 - Obscene or harassing phone calls or text messages
 - Harassment, stalking, or hate crimes
 - Child pornography

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
<http://stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov/adult/indexAdult.asp?Area=cyberbullying>