

## **Bullying/Harassment Resources**

We believe a student's right to feel safe in school is paramount and contributes significantly to his or her capacity for learning and social development. Currently, Fenwick has a protocol for reporting bullying and cyber bullying that happened inside the school. We also will direct parents and students to the appropriate resource when bullying is happening outside of school and is not affecting the learning environment. It is our belief that bullying sometimes goes unreported because students, for a number of reasons, may not be comfortable reporting incidents, or reporting incidents to school personnel.

In our on-going effort to maintain a safe learning environment for all of our students, Fenwick has developed resources to report bullying/harassment. We encourage students/parents to utilize these resources to report any bullying/harassing behavior of which they have knowledge. When a message is retrieved by school personnel the incident will be investigated and responded to accordingly.

Please use the contacts below to report bullying:

[deansoffice@fenwickfriars.com](mailto:deansoffice@fenwickfriars.com) or Report Bullying to class counselor or to the Dean of Students. When reporting, please include individuals involved, location, time if known, and an estimated number of times witnessed.

Cyber bullying continues to be one of the methods used to bully children today. Due to the advancements in technology, the increased number of social apps available to kids, the limited ability to track the activity of kids using these apps, and the continue decrease in monitoring kids on social networking apps, cyber bullying still remains an issue across the country today. In order to protect our students, we have provided some procedures to assist parents in combatting this growing issue around the youth today.

### **Report Cyberbullying**

When cyberbullying happens, it is important to document and report the behavior so it can be addressed.

### **Steps to Take Immediately**

Don't respond to and don't forward cyberbullying messages.

Keep evidence of cyberbullying. Record the dates, times, and descriptions of instances when cyberbullying has occurred. Save and print screenshots, emails, and text messages. Use this evidence to report cyberbullying to web and cell phone service providers.

Block the person who is cyberbullying.

## **Report Cyberbullying to Online Service Providers**

Cyberbullying often violates the terms of service established by social media sites and internet service providers. Review their terms and conditions or rights and responsibilities sections. These describe content that is or is not appropriate.

Visit social media safety centers to learn how to block users and change settings to control who can contact you.

Report cyberbullying to the social media site so they can take action against users abusing the terms of service.

## **Report Cyberbullying to Law Enforcement**

When cyberbullying involves these activities it is considered a crime and should be reported to law enforcement:

### Threats of violence

Child pornography or sending sexually explicit messages or photos

Taking a photo or video of someone in a place where he or she would expect privacy

### Stalking and hate crimes

Some states consider other forms of cyberbullying criminal. Consult your state's laws and law enforcement for additional guidance.

## **Report Cyberbullying to Schools**

Cyberbullying can create a disruptive environment at school and is often related to in-person bullying. The school can use the information to help inform prevention and response strategies. Please report cyber bullying to the school once the above resources have been contacted. The school can also address the issue to ensure no disruption to the educational environment is taking place.