**Cyber Bullying Facts**

“Cyber bullying” is defined as tormenting, threatening, harassing, or embarrassing another person using the Internet or other technologies, like cell phones. The psychological and emotional outcomes of cyber bullying are similar to those of real-life bullying. The difference is, real-life bullying often ends when school ends. For cyber bullying, there is no escape. And, it's getting worse. Read on to get the facts.

1. Nearly 43% of kids have been bullied online. 1 in 4 has had it happen more than once.
2. 70% of students report seeing frequent bullying online.
3. Over 80% of teens use a cell phone regularly, making it the most common medium for cyber bullying.
4. 68% of teens agree that cyber bullying is a serious problem.
5. 81% of young people think bullying online is easier to get away with than bullying in person.
6. 90% of teens who have seen social-media bullying say they have ignored it. 84% have seen others tell cyber bullies to stop.
7. Only 1 in 10 victims will inform a parent or trusted adult of their abuse.
8. Girls are about twice as likely as boys to be victims and perpetrators of cyber bullying.
9. About 58% of kids admit someone has said mean or hurtful things to them online. More than 4 out 10 say it has happened more than once.
10. Bullying victims are 2 to 9 times more likely to consider committing suicide.
11. About 75% of students admit they have visited a website bashing another student.

Source: https://www.dosomething.org/facts/11-facts-about-cyber-bullying

**Resources**

Sussex County Public Schools Homepage
~click on Technology, then click on Internet Safety
www.sussex.k12.va.us

Tiger Tech Bytes
~click on Internet Safety, Cyber Bullying, and Digital Citizenship
https://sites.google.com/site/ttbsussex/

NetSmartz Workshop
www.netsmartz.org

Infinite Learning Lab
https://learninglab.org

FBI: A Parent’s Guide to Internet Safety

Iggey and Rasper’s Tips for Internet Safety and Good Manners
http://www.kidscomjr.com/games/safety/safety.html

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**Sussex County Public Schools**

Keeping our students safe

A Guide for Parents and the Community

The Internet has brought great things to education. And online learning is bringing education options in varying ranges of affordability to a much wider audience. It provides students with access to information and resources. Email, blogging, instant messaging allow them to communicate with people in other parts of the world. The internet gives students a chance to become lifelong learners. While realizing that the internet is a great educational tool, everyone must work together to keep our children safe.
The FBI says reports of predators communicating with young people online have increased more than 6,000 percent since 1996. In a survey of 8-18 year-olds, the foundation found that:

- Half of teens (13-18) post personal information about themselves online.
- One-third of girls (13-18) have talked about sex online with someone they've never met in person.
- One in eight online teens has discovered an adult posing as much younger.
- Nearly one-third of teens have talked online about meeting in person with someone they know only from the Internet.

Warning signs of an online predator:

- Lying, especially about age
- Attempts to alienate children from their friends or family
- Too-good-to-be-true gifts, including cameras and Web-cams
- Threats or demands for secrecy

-DID YOU KNOW...

The National Polly Klaas Foundation

Internet Safety 101

Blog/Blogging (short for weblog): A diary or personal journal kept on a website.

Circumventor Sites: Parallel websites that allow children to get around filtering software and access sites that have been blocked.

Cookie: A piece of information about your visit to a website that some websites record automatically on your computer.

Cybersex: Refers to virtual sexual encounters between two or more persons.

Cyberstalking: Methods individuals use to track, lure, or harass another person online.

Electronic Footprint: Computers maintain a record of all website visits and e-mail messages, leaving a trail of the user’s activity in cyberspace.

Grooming: Refers to the techniques sexual predators use to get to know and seduce their victims in preparation for sexual abuse.

Identity Theft: In this crime, someone obtains the vital information of another person, usually to steal money.

Malware: any harmful code—trojans, worms, spyware, adware, etc.—that is designed to damage the computer or collect information.

Post: To upload information to the Web.

Sexting: Cell phone, computer and other mobile device users—often teens and ‘tweens’—create and exchange provocative messages and nude, sexual images of themselves using their cell phone’s built-in digital camera and text messaging capabilities.

Spam: Any unsolicited e-mail, or junk mail. Most spam is either a money scam or sexual in nature.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Keep computers in a common area of your home where they can be monitored.
- Teach your child never to reveal personal information online.
- Consider adding protective software or controlled access options to your computer.
- Warn children never to chat with strangers online unless you are supervising.

WARNING SIGNS . . .

Is your child . . .

- Spending a large amount of time online, especially at night
- Turning off the monitor when others enter the room
- Saving pornographic, racist, or drug-related material on the computer
- Making or receiving unexplained long-distance phone calls
- Withdrawing from normal interaction with family to go online
- Making online purchases