"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." John 15:12

Helping Students Help Students

Principals and vice-principals want to assist you because you are a friend, ally, parent/guardian or witness to a student who has been hurt.

Do you know that principals/vice-principals know that...

- students who have been bullied tend to reach out to their friends first?
- your relationship to someone who has been hurt is important in their healing process?
- you may be the difference for someone who was hurt?
- all incidents of cyberbullying must be taken seriously?
- students may be hesitant to speak up for fear of repercussions, being judged, not being believed, losing their device, being disciplined or even being outed?

Principals and vice-principals are here to help YOU...too!

Did you know...

- most cyberbullies and victims know each other?
- 50% of youth and 30% of parents/guardians say they have witnessed cyberbullying?
- 65% of youth say that they would tell a friend over a parent/guardian or trusted adult?

So what can you do to help?

- Trust your principal or vice-principal to help you!
- Do not respond to the texts or messages
- Block the user
- · Adjust your privacy settings
- Report the behaviour through the social media site, to your teachers, your parent/guardian or another trusted adult
- Talk to someone you trust













Show your friend that you are there for them.

- Remind your friend that this is not their fault and they don't deserve to be treated this way. This may help them talk about it.
- Ask your friend what they need and help them find a solution. Ask them not to seek revenge because that can just make things worse.
- Help your friend talk with a trusted adult at home or at school about it, but do not speak for them unless they ask you to.
- Check back with your friend often and ask how they are doing.



Say something...Speak UP!

- Speak up! Remaining silent could be misinterpreted as approval by both your friend and the cyberbully. Once you speak up, other people are more likely to speak up too.
- Investigate creating a school wide campaign on "Speak UP." A campaign focus could include the bully, the bullies and/or the bystander.
- If it is safe to do so, comment disapprovingly on posts, images or videos that hurt people; refuse to forward or share them; without being confrontational, explain that this behaviour is not okay with you; ask the person to stop.
- Stand up against cyberbullying, tell the bully it's not okay with you. Be clear, but do not start a fight about it.
- Call out cyberbullying by saying things like "That's mean!" or "Stop it!" to show that you do not approve.
- Tell your friend there could be legal consequences of cyberbullying.

<u>Someone I know is being cyberbullied</u> (<u>Public Safety Canada</u>)

The action statements have been modified from the following resources:

RCMP Just the Facts

Someone I know is being cyberbullied

• Infosheet Cyberbullying

Advice for Parents: L-O-V-E

Listen to your child. **Offer** support and advocacy. **Validate** your child's feelings. **Explore** resources together.

RESOURCES

- PREVNet
- MediaSmarts
- Kids Help Phone
- Tip sheet for parents (in 20 languages)
- Visit your local Law Enforcement's website

- <u>Canadian Centre for Cyber Security</u>
- Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre
- Teach your children how to respond to cyberbullying
- Healthy Relationships (Ontario Principals' Council)
- Visit your local Victim Services' website









