

SCHOOL POLICY

AT ST PETER'S WE VALUE

Respect, dignity, fairness, accountability, responsibility, open communication and partnership.

CYBERBULLYING INVOLVES:

Flaming: sending cruel, vicious and threatening messages

Harassmen: creating web sites that have stories, cartoons, pictures and jokes ridiculing others

Denigrating: posting pictures and statements of class mates online and asking students to rate them.

Masquerading: pretending to be someone else and sending or posting material that makes that person look bad or places that person in potential danger

Outing and Trickery: engaging someone in an instant messaging, tricking that person into revealing sensitive personal information, and forwarding that information to others.

Pictures: Obtaining pictures and sending those pictures to others without approval.

Exclusion: actions that specifically and intentionally exclude a person from an online group

AIMS

To acknowledge that cyber bullying is an issue associated with the digital age.

To recognise the impact of cyber bullying can be even greater than face to face bullying.

To value the support of the partnership between home and school.

To view individuals as moral beings accountable for their decisions and responsible for their actions, with an ability to seek what is true and to do what is right.

To affirm that the right to free speech does not supersede the responsibility to treat people with respect, dignity and fairness.

To encourage students to avoid the cultural expectation of secrecy in digital communication.

USEFUL RESOURCES

PARENTS

In the first instance, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher with your concerns and evidence related to cyberbullying or cybersafety. This will provide a basis and direction for further investigations into the matter, if brought to the school's attention. It is a parent's responsibility to ensure age restrictions on websites are adhered to.

CYBERSMART

www.cybersmart.gov.au

AUSTRALIAN COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA AUTHORITY

www.acma.gov.au

CHILDNET INTERNATIONAL

www.childnet-int.org

GET NET WISE

<http://kids.getnetwise.org/>

ST PETER'S WEBSITE

www.stpeterscaboolture.qld.edu.au



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St Peter's
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

CYBERSAFETY

CYBERBULLYING DEFINITION:

A person is cyber bullied when he or she, through digital communication is exposed repeatedly, over time, to negative action on the part of one or more persons.

YOUNG KIDS

HOW TO BE CYBERSMART!

Tell your Mum or Dad if you see something online that upsets you, or if someone makes you feel unhappy. You can also talk to a trusted adult like a teacher: they can help.

Hide your password. Only ever share it with your parents – never with your friends. Someone else could go online pretending to be you and do something that could get you into trouble.

Interesting websites can be fun. Check with Mum or Dad if a site is okay to use before you visit. Sometimes they can set up a good list of sites just for you.

Be **N**ice to people you talk to on the internet or phone. Name calling or being mean is not cool. Look out for yourself and for others.

Keep your special personal information safe. Never give your real name, address or phone number to anyone you don't know in the real world. Use a nickname in chat rooms or when you play games on the computer.

KIDS

IF YOU ARE BEING CYBERBULLIED

Ignore it. Don't respond to the bully. If they don't get a response they may get bored and go away.

Block the person. This will stop you seeing messages or texts from a particular person.

Tell someone. Tell your mum or dad, or another adult you trust. Or you can call Kids Helpline on 1800 55 1800 or visit their website.

Keep the evidence. This can be useful in tracking the bully down. Save texts, emails, online conversations or voicemails as proof.

Report it to:

your school - they should have policies in place about bullying and cyberbullying.

your ISP and/or phone provider or the website administrator - there are actions they can take to help.

the police - if there is a threat to your safety the police will help. Call Triple Zero (000) or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

HELP STOP CYBERBULLYING

Stand up and speak out! If you see or know about cyberbullying happening to a friend, **support them and report the bullying.** You'd want them to do the same for you.

Don't forward on messages or pictures that may hurt or be upsetting to someone. Even though you may not have started it, you will be seen to be part of the cyberbullying cycle.

Remember to treat others as you would like to be treated when communicating online.

TEENS

NETIQUETTE TIPS

Avoid using bad language and don't say things to someone to make them feel bad.

Learn about the '**netiquette**' of being online. What's considered okay to do and say and what isn't? For example, if you type a message to someone in UPPER CASE they may think you are shouting at them.

If someone says something rude or something that makes you feel uncomfortable, **don't respond.** Leave the chat room or forum straight away.

Tell your parents or another adult you trust if you read upsetting language, or see nasty pictures or something scary.

PLAYING ONLINE GAMES

If another player is behaving badly or making you uncomfortable, **block them** from your players list. You may also be able to report them to the game site operator.

Limit your game play time so you can still do other things like homework, jobs around the house and hanging out with your friends.

Keep personal details private.

Remember to make time **offline** for your friends, your favourite sports and other activities.