Cyber bullying is direct verbal or indirect bullying behaviours using digital technologies. This includes harassment via a mobile phone, setting up a defamatory personal website or deliberately excluding someone from social networking spaces.

**Purpose:**
1. Promote the right of every student to a school environment that is free from harassment.
2. Promote the right of all staff to a workplace that is safe from harassment.
3. Provide appropriate procedures to deal with complaints of harassment.

**Implementation:**
The implementation of specific cyber safety initiatives in schools supports the safety and wellbeing of students and contributes to the prevention of cyber bullying or unacceptable behaviour via technology. A holistic approach to the respectful and safe use of information and communication technologies should include:
- policies and procedures within the school’s Student Engagement Policy to encourage cyber safe behaviour across the school including Acceptable Use Agreements
- access to professional learning opportunities for teachers
- specific teaching of the safe use of technologies for students
- internet safety awareness information or presentations for parents.

**Resources:**
The Department’s [Learning On Line](#) website provides policy advice, resources, classroom activities and professional learning actions to support the safe and responsible use of digital technologies. Some schools have also implemented a range of approaches to complement classroom teaching and learning and promote cyber safety. These include frameworks, programs and professional learning available through:
- eSmart
- SuperClubsPLUS Australia
- CyberS@vvy
- Australian Communications and Media Authority
- ThinkUKnow

It should be noted that incidents of offensive or suspicious online behaviour should be reported to the Australian Communications and Media Authority or the Australian Federal Police depending on the nature of the behaviour.
For information about reporting problematic behaviour, see: [Cybersmart](#)
For more information about the safe and responsible use of technologies, see: [Learning On Line](#)

*Parents need to be aware of the age limits of Facebook*