

Bullying Information & Resources

Navigation Services



Need more information? Contact our Navigation Services Team at 303-432-5130 or navigation@jcmh.org

If you notice any changes or inconsistencies with our resources, please inform Navigation to help us stay current.

Is my child being bullied?

Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among children and teens that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time.

Signs that your child is being bullied may include: unexplainable injuries; lost or destroyed possessions; feeling sick or faking illness, and changes in eating habits. Kids may come home from school hungry because they did not eat lunch. Other signs may include: difficulty sleeping or frequent nightmares; declining grades; loss of interest in schoolwork or not wanting to go to school; sudden loss of friends and avoidance of social situations; decreased self-esteem, and self-destructive behaviors such as harming themselves or talking about suicide.

(stopbullying.gov)

 Verbal Bullying saying or writing mean things teasing name-calling 	 Social Bullying hurting someone's	 Physical Bullying hurting a person's	 Cyber-bullying sending mean text
	reputation or	body or possessions hitting, kicking,	messages or emails,
	relationships leaving someone out	pinching, spitting,	or mean postings on
	on purpose	tripping or pushing	social networking sites posting embarrassing
 inappropriate sexual comments taunting threatening to cause harm 	 on purpose telling other children not to be friends with someone spreading rumors about someone embarrassing someone in public 	 tripping or pushing taking or breaking someone's things making mean or rude hand gestures 	 posting embarrassing pictures, videos, websites, or fake profiles

Types of bullying include:

(Safeyouth.org; stopbullying.gov)

How can I support my child?

- Listen and focus on the child. Never tell the child to ignore the bullying. Assure the child that bullying is not their fault.
- Do not tell the child to physically fight back against the kid who is bullying.
- Consider referring the child to a school counselor, psychologist, or other mental health service.
- Work with the child to understand some of the reasons he or she bullied. Discuss how sometimes children bully to fit in. Sometimes children feel ashamed of their differences and use bullying to hide these insecurities. Other times kids act out because something else—issues at home, abuse, stress—is going on in their lives. They also may have been bullied.

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- Work together on an anti-bullying plan. This may involve role-playing and thinking through how the child might react if the bullying occurs again.
- Work together with the school to resolve the situation and protect the bullied child. This can include your child's teacher, and follow-up with the school's principal, if needed. Contacting the school's superintendent may also be appropriate, and you can obtain the contact information on the school's website. Parents should resist the urge to contact the other parents involved. It may make matters worse, and school or other officials can act as mediators between parents.
- Remember that children who witness bullying are affected too. Speak to your child about his or her experiences at school, and provide support as needed.
- Be persistent. Bullying may not end overnight. Commit to making it stop and consistently support the bullied child.

(stopbullying.gov)

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Additional Resources: (Sources: https://www.cde.state.co.us/mtss/familybullyingprevention)

- <u>Stopbullying.gov</u>: "StopBullying.gov provides information from various government agencies on what bullying is, what cyberbullying is, who is at risk, and how you can help prevent and respond to bullying."
 <u>Responding to Bullying</u>
- <u>PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center</u>: PACER's website has videos, personal stories, and resources for families and schools to help prevent bullying.
- <u>Colorado School Safety Resource Center</u>: The Colorado School Safety Resource Center (CSSRC) is responsible for assisting educators, emergency responders, community organizations, school mental health professionals, parents, and students to create safe, positive, and successful environments.
 - <u>CSSRC Bullying and Harassment</u>: An extensive list of resources are made available on the CSSRC Bullying and Harassment site. Select links can be found below.
- <u>AbilityPath</u>: "Abilitypath.org is an online hub and special needs community for parents and professionals to learn...The website combines social networking features with expert content from AbilityPath.org's team of educators, parents, therapists and medical professionals."

Local Resources and Providers:

Arvada Therapy Solutions- Sybil Cummin, MA, LPC

5460 Ward Road, Suite 110, Arvada, CO 80002 https://www.arvadatherapysolutions.com/team.html Email: sybil@arvadatherapysolutions.com | Phone: 303-519-0620

• Please call Arvada Therapy Solutions directly for information about bullying support groups.

Bullying Recovery Resource Center

2175 S. Jasmine St, Suite 203, Denver, 80222 Phone: 303-991-1397 https://bullyingrecoveryresourcecenter.org/

Colorado Department of Public Safety - School Safety Resource Center

 Resource guide: <u>http://cdpsdocs.state.co.us/safeschools/Resources/CSSRCBullying_SchoolResourceGuide2019.pdf</u>