

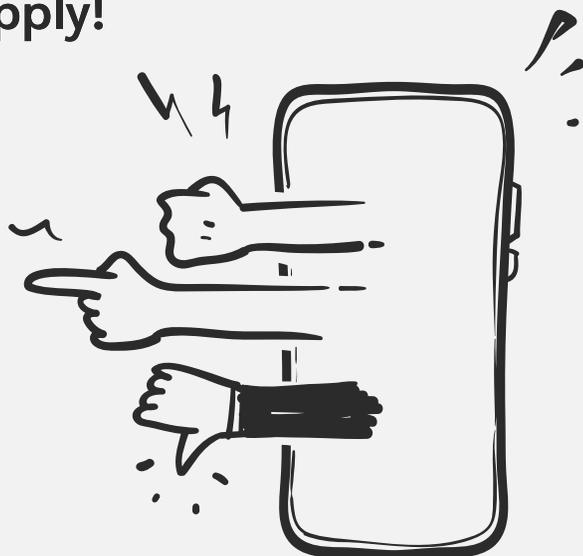
# CYBERBULLYING

## Online or in Person, the Same Rules Apply!

The Internet, social media, and smartphones are part of everyday life. The same responsibilities and rules about respect apply online. Every message, image, or post can:

- ✓ Be saved or recorded.
- ✓ Be shared quickly.
- ✓ Have real consequences.

Online actions can lead to school discipline and, depending on how serious they are, legal consequences.



**Cyberbullying** is a type of bullying that happens through digital technologies, like social media, messaging apps, text messages, online games or sharing platforms.

It can take place outside school hours but can still affect the school environment and students' well-being.

### Violent or hateful messages

Risky behaviours: insults or threats on social media or through text messages; racist, sexist, or homophobic messages; repeated "jokes" that humiliate someone.

- These actions can be criminal, especially **threats, criminal harassment, or incitement of hatred**.
- A message, even if sent privately, can be saved, recorded, or used as evidence.
- Being anonymous or saying it was "just a joke" **does not protect someone from consequences**.

- **Sharing an intimate image without consent** is never allowed. It is a crime and can lead to serious consequences, like major school disciplinary measures or police involvement.
- Creating fake intimate images (for example, by editing photos or using AI) can also lead to criminal consequences.
- These actions can have serious effects on the life and well-being of the person targeted.

### Sharing intimate images

Risky behaviours: sharing or reposting intimate images or videos without consent; creating fake intimate images using artificial intelligence (deepfakes).

### Defamation and online humiliation

Risky behaviours: posting content that ridicules someone; spreading false information about someone; sharing rumours on social media.

- Freedom of expression has limits. These behaviours can be considered **defamation**.
- Damaging someone's reputation or honour can lead to both legal consequences and school discipline.