Fact Sheet for Virginia’s Parents
Types of Cyberbullying

Flaming
Online “fights” using electronic messages with angry and vulgar language. Generally, involves equivalent strength aggressors.

- Explanation of Type of Cyberbullying
  Language that moves dialogue to a new level.

Harassment
Repeatedly sending offensive and insulting messages. The online equivalent or direct bullying.

- Explanation of Type of Cyberbullying
  This is consistent messaging and repeating the action.

Cyberstalking
Engaging in online activities that make a persona afraid for his or her safety. Using technology for control in an abusive dating relationship. Includes many of the other forms of aggression. Is generally in the context of a personal relationship. Generates fear.

- Explanation of Type of Cyberbullying
  This is harassment that is more serious in nature. The key is some type of threat of impending harm.

Denigration
Sending or posting cruel gossip or rumors about a person to damage his or her reputation or friendships. The online equivalent to indirect bullying with wider dissemination.

- Explanation of Type of Cyberbullying
  This is the art of putting someone down.

Impersonating
Impersonating someone to make the person look bad, get into trouble, or damage the person’s reputation or friendships. A new form of aggression made possible by the ability to create a fake profile.

- Explanation of Type of Cyberbullying
  This is a person who poses as someone else to retrieve sensitive or private information.
**Outing**
Sharing someone’s secrets or embarrassing information or images online. A new form of aggression made possible because targets put damaging material in an electronic form that others can use against them.

*Explanation of Type of Cyberbullying*
This is trying to disclose someone else’s information.

**Trickery**
Tricking someone into revealing secrets or embarrassing information, which is shared. Deceiving someone online to humiliate or cause harm. A new form of aggression made possible because it is easier to deceive someone online and obtain damaging information that can be shared.

*Explanation of Type of Cyberbullying*
This is pretending to be a friend. It includes collecting private information and then sharing it. And mocking the individual.

**Exclusion**
Intentionally excluding someone from an online group, like a “buddy list.” The online equivalent or relational aggression: “You are not my friend.”

*Explanation of Type of Cyberbullying*
Not allowing someone to be part of a group. Intentionally leaving them out and not allow them to participate in electronic communication.

**Definition of Cyberbullying**
Stopbullying.gov

Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place over digital devices like cell phones, computers, and tablets. Cyberbullying can occur through text and apps, or online in social media, forums, or gaming where people can view, participate in, or share content. Cyberbullying includes sending, posting, or sharing negative, harmful, false, or mean content about someone else. It can include sharing personal or private information about someone else, causing embarrassment or humiliation. Some cyberbullying crosses the line into unlawful or criminal behavior.

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**Resources:**
End to Cyber Bullying Organization [https://www.endcyberbullying.org/](https://www.endcyberbullying.org/)
Cyberbullying Research Center [https://cyberbullying.org/](https://cyberbullying.org/)
StopBullying.gov [www.stopbullying.gov](http://www.stopbullying.gov)
StompOutBullying.Org [www.stompoutbullying.org](http://www.stompoutbullying.org)

PEATC’s mission focuses on building positive futures for Virginia’s children by working collaboratively with families, schools and communities to improve opportunities for excellence in education and success in school and community life.

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