

School of Education Cyberbullying Policy

STATEMENT OF POLICY:

Loyola University Chicago School of Education recognizes the importance of information technology to the mission of a modern university. These electronic resources provide vital communication links among faculty, students and staff. They are infused into the curriculum and provide expanded opportunities for accessing instruction and information. These resources facilitate research and scholarly endeavors, and they aid collaboration within and beyond the borders of the campus. At the same time, these platforms present opportunities for misuse and for people to harm others when the technology is used without regard to consequences and without respect for one another. A safe and civil environment in the Loyola University Chicago School of Education is necessary for pupils to learn and achieve high academic standards.

DEFINITION:

Cyber Bullying is defined as any activity that deliberately threatens, harasses, intimidates an individual, places an individual in reasonable fear of harm to the individual or damage to the individual's property; or has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the individual's daily life via the use of electronic information and communication devices, to include but not be limited to: e-mail messages, instant messaging, text messaging, cellular telephone communications, internet blogs, social media sites, internet chat rooms, internet postings.

PROHIBITIONS:

Cyber bullying by a member of the LUC SOE community directed towards another is prohibited. It includes, but is not limited to:

- Sending mean, threatening or harassing messages to another person through texts, e-mail, web pages, or instant messaging.
- Spreading lies and rumors about victims through the internet or text messages.
- Posting pictures without the consent of the individual.
- Tricking someone into revealing their personal information and sending it to others.
- Creating websites, polls, or blogs about the individual that are meant to embarrass or hurt the person.
- Recording conversations or videos without the individual's consent and then posting it online.

The university may suspend network privileges for as long as necessary in order to protect the university's computing resources for violations of this policy. In addition, any violation of this policy is "misconduct" and subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal for employees and expulsion for students, in accordance with the applicable disciplinary process. Additional sanctions may also include civil and/or criminal actions.