

8 TIPS:



COMBATING BULLIES

As the school year begins, it's important to discuss safety information with your child in an age-appropriate way. Signal 88 Security offers the following advice for parents regarding bullying as kids head back to school.



1. Teach your kids how to identify bullying by letting them know what it is and by giving them examples. Point it out to them when you see it happening on television or in a book so that they learn to identify it when it happens.
2. Make it clear to your children that they can talk to you if they are being bullied and you will take it seriously.
3. Let your child know the individuals in their school that they can go to immediately and any time for help; teacher, security guard, nurse, etc.
4. If appropriate, let the other child's parents know that you think there is a problem and try to work with them on a solution.
5. Ask your child's teacher to keep an eye on the situation and notify you if they see or hear anything alarming.
6. If you have serious concerns and don't think they are being addressed, keep at it until you are sure your child is safe.
7. Don't assume the bullying is only occurring at school. Cyberbullies can target kids via text message and social media 24/7.
8. If your child is being cyber-bullied, resist the temptation to delete the offending material. Save text messages and take photos of anything on social media so that you have evidence if you need it.

For more information on bullying, contact your school counselor, National Boystown Hotline, National Bullying Prevention Center or another local resource.

