

# National bullying survey

## Children and young people



**BullyingUK**  
Part of **family lives**

**81% experienced name calling**

**55% experienced social bullying**

*"Making me feel lonely at school, being left out and my friends taking her side."*

**42% had to take time off school because of bullying**

**41% were bullied on the way to school**

*"I have been hospitalised multiple times with PTSD related to bullying."*

**55% of those bullying feel that counselling would help them**

**54% feel a support group would help**

*"It gives you a generally bad feeling about yourself. Whatever I do they just manage to hate me for it."*

**67% feel depressed as a result of the bullying**

**40% have had suicidal thoughts and 39% have self-harmed**

**70% feel angry or aggressive as a result of the bullying**

**80% were bullied by more than one person**

**90% of the bullying took place at school**

**76% during break times  
64% in the playground**

*"I couldn't cope but the school said everything was fine and that if I didn't go to school I would be taken to court."*

**75% felt the school was unhelpful when dealing with the bullying**

**50% of young people were bullied about their appearance**

**63% of those bullied confided in their parents**



*"I lost everything and have tried to commit suicide but couldn't go through with it no matter how hard."*

**57% were bullied on Facebook**

**38% were bullied on Instagram**

**32% were bullied on SnapChat**

**52% were subject to false rumours online and 46% were threatened**

**35% said the social network took no action after it was reported**

**79% have seen others bullied online**

**38% now feel unsafe online**

**76% feel those who bully do so to impress others**

**92% have seen verbal bullying at their school**

**73% have seen social bullying**

*“Establishing a school values system & positive systems is hugely influential”*

**27% have seen LGBT bullying a few times a year**

**36% have been assaulted by pupils**

*“Student to teacher bullying is often never covered or mentioned as part of school bullying policies.”*

**29% feel restorative justice can help**

**16% feel counselling could help those who are being bullied**

*“Social media is the main catalyst for much of the bullying issues we have.”*

**94% feel that lunch and break staff should be trained on bullying**

**Only 23% teachers feel confident that they are on top of bullying**

**76% schools help young people who are being bullied online**

**77% have involved parents of the bully**

**55% of the bullies have been put on report**

**45% have had police involvement**

*“I will be more likely to look at this website in future when dealing with bullying issues in my school.”*

**65% find it hard to keep on top of bullying**

**82% say lunch is when most bullying occurs and 70% at break times**

**75% felt teacher presence can help to minimise the bullying**



*“I try to raise bullying as an issue quite regularly within my school. Many staff feel that there aren’t enough consequences for students who bully others.”*

**“Schools are becoming under so much pressure due to financial restraints and reduced staff. This is leading to an increase in behavioural management issues and bullying is on the increase. The pastoral unit has seen a massive decrease in staff so an important issue like bullying is more often than not being put on the back burner.”**

**“Frustrated when pupils use the terms ‘snitch/grass’ so won’t report bullying. We try to encourage the role of the bystander. We have various ways the kids can tell us by a bully box or e-mail. Thanks for survey!”**

**65% said their child was bullied more than 8 times**

**95% of bullying took place in school**

*"Pushed kicked by his friends name calling 'gay boy' - you have no friends!"*

**33% said their child was bullied online**

**40% reported it to a social network but didn't get a response**

*"Logged a report with Police but decided against taking action for fear of recrimination to my child."*

**40% of parents reported the bullying to head teacher**

**25% said they have changed schools**

*"They say "don't bully anyone", or "talk to a teacher" - not very helpful for a child who is scared, vulnerable and has communication issues."*

**90% said the bullying did not stop once reported**

**39% felt the school did not take their complaint seriously**

**57% took time off school and 10% were penalised for this**

**65% of the bullying was physical**

**82% of the bullying was verbal bullying**

**65% of the bullying was social bullying**

*"Saying that my child is worthless, told to shut up as no one interested in her opinion, no one likes her, she's too fat, and saying I'll try be nice to you tomorrow."*

**48% of the bullying was on appearance  
6% was homophobic bullying**

**55% of young people were able to confide in their parents**

**60% of those bullied suffered bruising to their body**



*"My son has suffered constant bullying to the point he had 9 months off school 2 years ago. He's now being bullied yet again and school are not helpful in the slightest."*

### The effects of bullying

**88% lower self-esteem  
78% emotional issues  
86% loss of confidence  
67% friendship issues  
41% more aggressive  
35% scared to go out**

**50% of parents surveyed experienced bullying in adulthood**

**27% had a child with additional needs**

**26% said their child with additional needs found it harder to spot the signs of bullying**

**41% feel the anti bullying policy isn't working well**

**58% feel permanent exclusion should be the sanction**