

Ministry of Education

# SAFETY at Your School

## Sample Survey for Students in Grades 7 to 12 About Bullying

Name of school: \_\_\_\_\_

School ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of school board/authority: \_\_\_\_\_

Board ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Schools need to be safe places so that students can be relaxed enough in them to learn.

The purpose of this survey is to find out about student safety and bullying at your school.

Please do not put your name on this survey. Your answers are confidential, so please try to answer the questions as honestly as you can. We are interested in what students, as a group, tell us.

**This survey is meant to be a sample. It may be used as is or adapted by schools or boards.**

# Student Information

We do not want you to put your name on this survey, but we do want to know something about the students who complete this survey. So, please answer the following questions:

1. **What grade are you in?** Check one:  7  8  9  10  11  12
2. **Are you male or female?** Check one:  Male  Female
3. **What is your first language (the first one you learned to speak)?** \_\_\_\_\_
4. **Can you read and write easily in English?**  Very easily  Easily  Not very easily
5. **How long have you lived in Canada?**  All my life  Part of my life: \_\_\_\_\_ years

## Optional Question

Responding to the following question is voluntary.

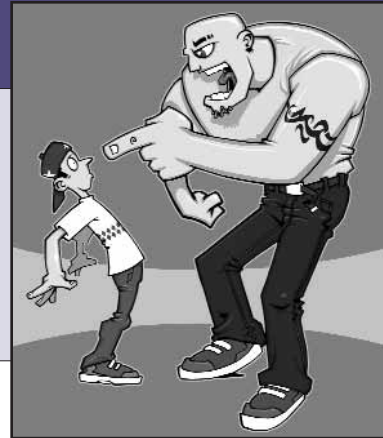
People sometimes identify themselves by race, the colour of their skin, or the country in which they, their parents, or their grandparents were born. For the purposes of this survey, how do you describe yourself?\* (Check more than one if appropriate.)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal<br>(Inuit, North American Indian, Métis)                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Korean                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arab/West Asian<br>(e.g., Armenian, Egyptian, Iranian, Lebanese, Moroccan) | <input type="checkbox"/> Latin American                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black<br>(e.g., African, Haitian, Jamaican, Somali)                        | <input type="checkbox"/> South Asian                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese  | <input type="checkbox"/> Southeast Asian                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Filipino   | <input type="checkbox"/> White<br>(Caucasian)             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other<br>(please describe) _____ |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know                     |

\*The list of options provided is a standard classification used by Statistics Canada. (From the Statistics Canada website at [www.statcan.ca/english/concepts/definitions/ethnicity01.htm](http://www.statcan.ca/english/concepts/definitions/ethnicity01.htm). Date modified: 2003-06-17)

# Bullying

There are lots of ways to bully, but in all cases students who bully other students want to hurt or upset them (it's not an accident). Usually they hurt or upset them repeatedly and have an advantage over them, such as being bigger. Sometimes a group of students will bully a student.



## Types and Examples of Bullying

- **Physical bullying**
  - hitting, pushing, shoving, slapping, kicking, spitting at, or beating others up
  - damaging or stealing someone's property
- **Verbal bullying**
  - name-calling, hurtful teasing
  - insulting, humiliating, or threatening someone
- **Social bullying**
  - excluding others from "the group" or from an activity
  - gossiping or spreading rumours about others
  - setting others up to look foolish
  - making sure others don't associate with someone
- **Electronic bullying**
  - sending e-mail or phone text messages or pictures to threaten someone or hurt their feelings; single out, embarrass, or make them look bad; or spread rumours or reveal secrets about them
- **Gender-based bullying**
  - leaving others out or treating them badly because they are a boy or a girl
  - making sexist comments or jokes
- **Racial/ethnocultural bullying**
  - treating others differently or badly because of their culture, racial or ethnic background, or the colour of their skin
  - saying negative things about someone's race, culture, ethnic background, or skin colour
  - calling someone by a racially or ethnically derogatory term
  - telling racist jokes
- **Sexual bullying**
  - touching, pinching, or grabbing someone in a sexual way
  - making crude comments or spreading rumours about someone's sexual behaviour
  - calling someone "gay" or a "fag" or a "lesbian" or something similar to upset them
  - making sexual gestures at someone
- **Religion-based bullying**
  - treating others differently or badly because of their religion
  - saying negative things about someone's religion

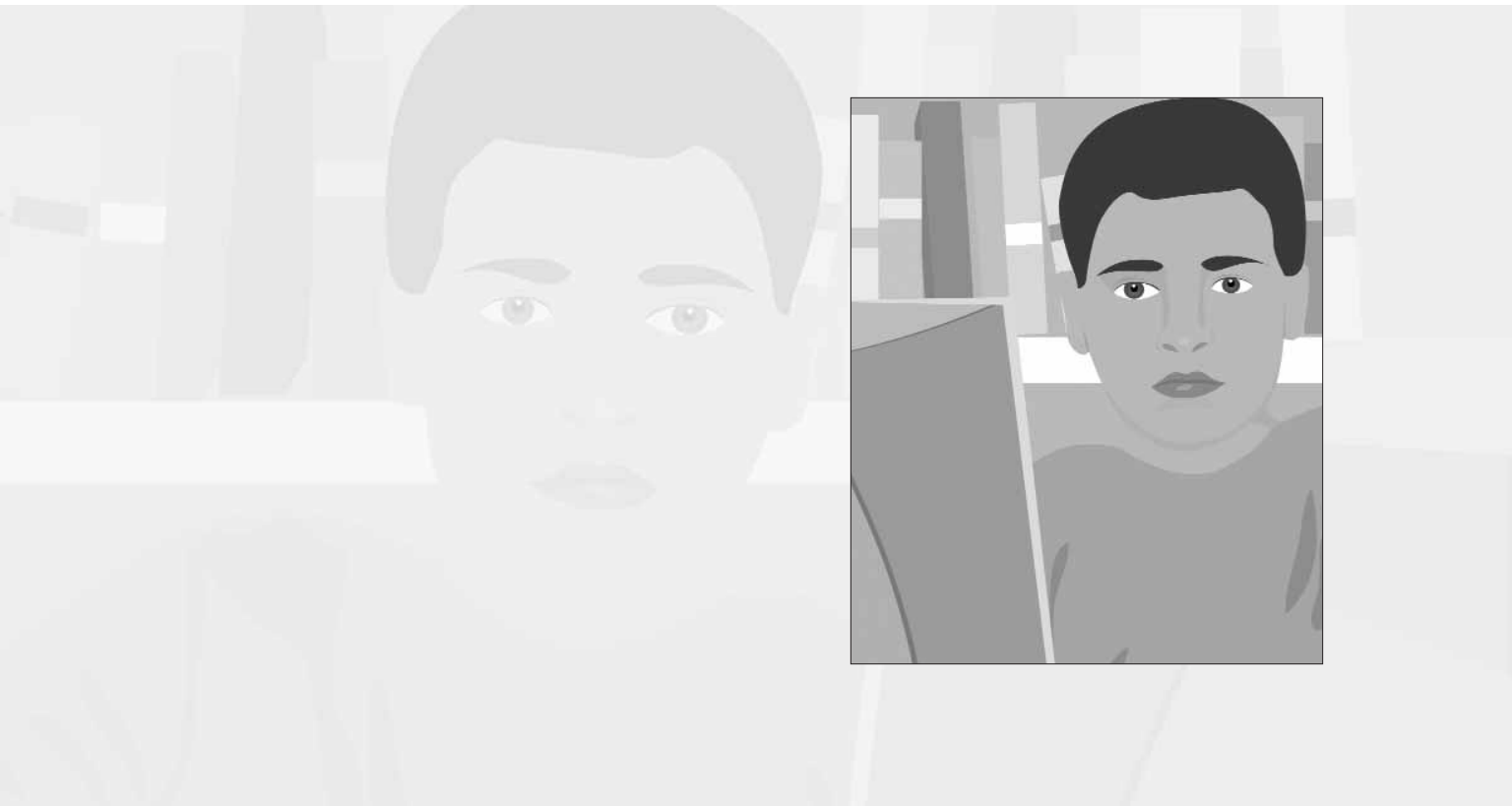
How safe do you feel at school? Safe means feeling comfortable, relaxed, and not worried that someone could harm you.

Circle one answer for each of the following questions.

6. Do you feel safe at school? ..... Never Sometimes Often Always

7. Do you feel safe on your way to and from school? ..... Never Sometimes Often Always

8. Do you feel safe in your neighbourhood or community? ..... Never Sometimes Often Always



When you answer questions 9 – 13, think about **THE PAST FOUR WEEKS**.

During the past four weeks . . .

**9. Have you been bullied by other students . . .** (Circle one answer for each question.)

**a) physically?**

Examples: hit, pushed, shoved, slapped, kicked, spit at, or beaten up; had property stolen or damaged

**Not once  
in 4 weeks**

**Once or twice  
in 4 weeks**

**Every week**

**Many times  
a week**

**Don't know**

**b) verbally?**

Examples: called names, teased hurtfully, insulted, humiliated, threatened

**Not once  
in 4 weeks**

**Once or twice  
in 4 weeks**

**Every week**

**Many times  
a week**

**Don't know**

**c) socially?**

Examples: excluded from a group, made to look dumb by someone, or gossiped about; had rumours spread about you

**Not once  
in 4 weeks**

**Once or twice  
in 4 weeks**

**Every week**

**Many times  
a week**

**Don't know**

**d) electronically?**

Examples: threatened, embarrassed, singled out, made to look bad, had your feelings hurt, been gossiped about, or had secrets about you revealed through e-mail or phone text messages or pictures

**Not once  
in 4 weeks**

**Once or twice  
in 4 weeks**

**Every week**

**Many times  
a week**

**Don't know**

**e) racially/  
ethnoculturally?**

Examples: treated differently or badly because of your race, culture, ethnic background, or skin colour; heard jokes or negative things said about your race, culture, ethnic background, or skin colour

**Not once  
in 4 weeks**

**Once or twice  
in 4 weeks**

**Every week**

**Many times  
a week**

**Don't know**

**f) sexually?**

Examples: touched, pinched, or grabbed in a sexual way; called "gay" or a "fag" or a "lesbian" in a way meant to upset you; had sexual gestures made at you, or crude comments made or rumours spread about your sexual behaviour

**Not once  
in 4 weeks**

**Once or twice  
in 4 weeks**

**Every week**

**Many times  
a week**

**Don't know**

**g) because of  
your religion?**

Examples: treated you differently or badly because of your religion; had bad things said to you about your religion

**Not once  
in 4 weeks**

**Once or twice  
in 4 weeks**

**Every week**

**Many times  
a week**

**Don't know**

**h) because of  
your gender?**

Examples: left out or treated badly because you are a boy or a girl; heard sexist comments or jokes

**Not once  
in 4 weeks**

**Once or twice  
in 4 weeks**

**Every week**

**Many times  
a week**

**Don't know**

## 10. How often have you seen or heard another student being bullied . . .

(Circle one answer for each question.)

**a) physically?** Examples: pushed, hit, shoved, slapped, kicked, spit at, or beat up by someone; had their belongings damaged or stolen

<b>Not once in 4 weeks</b>	<b>Once or twice in 4 weeks</b>	<b>Every week</b>	<b>Many times a week</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
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**b) verbally?** Examples: called names, teased, or made fun of; spoken to meanly; embarrassed or threatened

<b>Not once in 4 weeks</b>	<b>Once or twice in 4 weeks</b>	<b>Every week</b>	<b>Many times a week</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
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**c) socially?** Examples: left out of groups or games, gossiped or talked about, made to look silly in front of others

<b>Not once in 4 weeks</b>	<b>Once or twice in 4 weeks</b>	<b>Every week</b>	<b>Many times a week</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
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**d) electronically?** Examples: hurt, threatened, embarrassed, singled out, made to look bad, gossiped about, or had secrets revealed by other students through e-mail or phone text messages or pictures

<b>Not once in 4 weeks</b>	<b>Once or twice in 4 weeks</b>	<b>Every week</b>	<b>Many times a week</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
--------------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------	------------------------------	-------------------

**e) racially/  
ethnoculturally?** Examples: treated differently or badly because of their race, culture, or skin colour; had bad things said to them about their race, culture, or skin colour

<b>Not once in 4 weeks</b>	<b>Once or twice in 4 weeks</b>	<b>Every week</b>	<b>Many times a week</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
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**f) sexually?** Examples: touched, pinched, or grabbed in a sexual way; called "gay" or a "fag" or a "lesbian" in a way meant to upset them; had sexual gestures made at them, or crude comments or rumours spread about their sexual behaviour

<b>Not once in 4 weeks</b>	<b>Once or twice in 4 weeks</b>	<b>Every week</b>	<b>Many times a week</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
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**g) because of  
their religion?** Examples: treated differently or badly because of their religion; had bad things said to them about their religion

<b>Not once in 4 weeks</b>	<b>Once or twice in 4 weeks</b>	<b>Every week</b>	<b>Many times a week</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
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**h) because of  
their gender?** Examples: left out or treated badly because they are a boy or a girl; had sexist comments made to them or heard sexist jokes

<b>Not once in 4 weeks</b>	<b>Once or twice in 4 weeks</b>	<b>Every week</b>	<b>Many times a week</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
--------------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------	------------------------------	-------------------

**11. Have you, on your own or as part of a group, bullied other students . . .**  
(Circle one answer for each question.)

**a) physically?**

Examples: hit, pushed, shoved, slapped, kicked, spit at, or beaten up others at school; stolen or damaged others' property

**Not once  
in 4 weeks**

**Once or twice  
in 4 weeks**

**Every week**

**Many times  
a week**

**Don't know**

**b) verbally?**

Examples: called others names or teased them hurtfully; insulted, humiliated or threatened them;

**Not once  
in 4 weeks**

**Once or twice  
in 4 weeks**

**Every week**

**Many times  
a week**

**Don't know**

**c) socially?**

Examples: excluded others from a group, made them look dumb in front of others, gossiped or spread rumours about them

**Not once  
in 4 weeks**

**Once or twice  
in 4 weeks**

**Every week**

**Many times  
a week**

**Don't know**

**d) electronically?**

Examples: sent e-mail or phone text messages or pictures to threaten, embarrass, single out, or hurt someone's feelings; or to gossip, spread rumours, or reveal secrets about them

**Not once  
in 4 weeks**

**Once or twice  
in 4 weeks**

**Every week**

**Many times  
a week**

**Don't know**

**e) racially/  
ethnoculturally?**

Examples: treated others differently or badly because of their race, culture, ethnic background, or the colour of their skin; told jokes or said negative things about someone's race, culture, ethnic background, or the colour of their skin

**Not once  
in 4 weeks**

**Once or twice  
in 4 weeks**

**Every week**

**Many times  
a week**

**Don't know**

**f) sexually?**

Examples: touched, pinched, or grabbed someone in a sexual way; called others "gay", or a "fag" or a "lesbian" to upset them; made a sexual gesture at someone; made crude comments or spread rumours about someone's sexual behaviour

**Not once  
in 4 weeks**

**Once or twice  
in 4 weeks**

**Every week**

**Many times  
a week**

**Don't know**

**g) because of  
their religion?**

Examples: treated someone differently or badly because of their religion; said bad things to them about their religion

**Not once  
in 4 weeks**

**Once or twice  
in 4 weeks**

**Every week**

**Many times  
a week**

**Don't know**

**h) because of  
their gender?**

Examples: left someone out or treated them badly because they are a boy or a girl; made sexist comments or jokes

**Not once  
in 4 weeks**

**Once or twice  
in 4 weeks**

**Every week**

**Many times  
a week**

**Don't know**

**12. How often have you stayed away from school in order to avoid being bullied?** (Circle one answer.)

- |                        |                             |            |                      |            |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|
| Not once<br>in 4 weeks | Once or twice<br>in 4 weeks | Every week | Many times<br>a week | Don't know |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|

**13. How often have you tried to help another student who was being bullied?**

(Circle one answer.)

- |                        |                             |            |                      |            |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|
| Not once<br>in 4 weeks | Once or twice<br>in 4 weeks | Every week | Many times<br>a week | Don't know |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|

**14. Do teachers try to stop bullying?**

(Circle one answer.) ..... Never Sometimes Often Always They don't notice it

**15. Does the principal or vice-principal try to stop bullying?**

(Circle one answer.) ..... Never Sometimes Often Always They don't notice it





The next questions ask about **where, when, and how often** bullying occurs in and near your school and about **how people respond** to this kind of behaviour.

## 16. Where and how often does bullying occur?

a) Classrooms	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
b) Hallways	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
c) School entrances and exits	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
d) Library	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
e) Computer rooms	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
f) Gym	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
g) Change room or locker rooms	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
h) Washrooms	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
i) School bus	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
j) Playground	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
k) On the way to and from school	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
l) Lunchroom or eating area/cafeteria	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
m) Parking lot	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
n) Areas off school property, but close to the school	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
o) Areas off school property where students smoke	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
p) On school field trips/during school extracurricular activities	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
q) Other _____	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always

17. Do you stay away from certain classrooms or areas of the school to avoid bullying? . . . . Never Sometimes Often Always

18. When are you at risk of being bullied?

a) Before school	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
b) During classes	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
c) Between classes	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
d) During break periods (spares, lunch)	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
e) After school	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
f) On the weekends	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
g) On field trips	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always

19. Think of the last time you saw or heard another student being bullied. What did you do? (Check any that are true for you.)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have not seen or heard another student being bullied. (Go to question 21.) | <input type="checkbox"/> I stood and watched.                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I ignored it.  | <input type="checkbox"/> I made a joke about it.                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I told my parents about it.  | <input type="checkbox"/> I joined in the bullying.                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I told my teacher about it.  | <input type="checkbox"/> I got someone to help stop it.             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I told my principal or vice-principal about it.                              | <input type="checkbox"/> I stood up to the person who was doing it. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I told an adult at school about it.  | <input type="checkbox"/> I got back at the bully later.             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I told an adult outside of school about it.                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain)                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I told another student about it.   | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> At the time, I helped the person being bullied.                              |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Later on, I helped the person being bullied.                                 |   |

**20. If you did not do anything the last time you saw someone being bullied, what was the reason?** (Check one.)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't want to get involved.                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> The bullying wasn't so bad.                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I was afraid.  | <input type="checkbox"/> The person being bullied deserved it.        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't know what to do or who to talk to.                      | <input type="checkbox"/> It wasn't my business or my problem.         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I thought if I told someone, they wouldn't do anything about it. | <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't want to get in trouble for telling. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It isn't right to tell on other people.                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain)                       |
- 

**21. Think of the last time you were bullied. What did you do?**

(Check any that are true for you.)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have not been bullied. ( <i>Go to question 23.</i> ) | <input type="checkbox"/> I called the police or Children's Aid.     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I ignored it.  | <input type="checkbox"/> I fought back.                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I told my parents about it.                            | <input type="checkbox"/> I got someone to help stop it.             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I told my teacher about it.                            | <input type="checkbox"/> I stood up to the person who was doing it. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I told my principal or vice-principal about it.        | <input type="checkbox"/> I made a joke of it.                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I told an adult at school about it.                    | <input type="checkbox"/> I got back at them later.                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I told an adult outside of school about it.            | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain)                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I told another student about it.                       |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I called a helpline.                                   |   |
- 

**22. If you did not do anything the last time you were bullied, what was the reason?** (Check one.)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I was afraid.  | <input type="checkbox"/> The bullying wasn't so bad.                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't know what to do or who to talk to.                      | <input type="checkbox"/> I deserved it.                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I thought if I told someone, they wouldn't do anything about it. | <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't want to get in trouble for telling. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It isn't right to tell on other people.                          | <input type="checkbox"/> It wouldn't have made a difference.          |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain)                       |
-

**23. How often do adults at your school (e.g., teachers, principal/ vice-principal(s), support staff) . . .**

a) notice bullying?	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
b) try to stop bullying?	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
c) ignore bullying?	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
d) talk openly about bullying?	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
e) make excuses for those who do it?	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
f) support or defend the person who was bullied?	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
g) discipline those who bully?	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
h) discipline those who are bullied?	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
i) listen to both sides of the story?	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
j) bully students themselves?	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
k) bully other adults?	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always

**24. How often are rules related to conduct and behaviour enforced in your school? .....** Never Sometimes Often Always

**25. Are the rules related to conduct and behaviour enforced fairly? .....** Never Sometimes Often Always

**26. If a student complains to an adult at school about bullying, how often is something done about it? .....** Never Sometimes Often Always

27. How often do you report bullying?..... Never Sometimes Often Always

28. How satisfied are you with the steps your school has taken to prevent bullying among students? ..... Very unsatisfied Unsatisfied Satisfied Very satisfied

29. Overall, how would you rate the efforts of adults at your school to make it a safe place?..... Very poor Poor Good Very good

*Is there anything else that you want to tell us about safety at your school?*



If you are having difficulty with other students at school,  
please know that we are here to help.

You can talk to any adult that you trust at your school –  
a counsellor, a teacher or coach, a custodian, a bus driver, etc.

We want to help ...contact us.

## **THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS SURVEY.**

Your answers will help us make this school  
safer for all its students.