

Safe online learning in times of Covid-19

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Title other languages:

[Safe online learning in times of Covid-19 \(in Hindi\)](#)

Organizations:

UNESCO Office New Delhi

National Council of Educational Research and Training (India)

Description:

Cyberbullying involves the use of electronic communication to bully a person, typically by sending messages of an intimidating or threatening nature and is a punishable offence under the Information Technology Act, 2000 and the Indian Penal Code. It also involves posting pictures or videos aimed at harassing another person. A whole gamut of social platforms, including chat rooms, blogs and instant messaging are used in cyberbullying. With COVID-19 closing schools across all states, Education Departments have made efforts to ensure continuity of learning through various digital platforms. Millions of learners are turning to online education and with this comes a huge increase in use of electronic devices and Information and communication Technologies (ICTs). This places children and young people at risk of online abuse, increasing their vulnerability to cyberbullying. Cyberbullying is widespread and affects a significant number of children and adolescents and infringes their rights to education and to health and well-being. There are considerable negative effects of cyberbullying, including on academic achievement, mental health, and quality of life in general. Online bullying often prevents teachers from imparting quality education through digital platforms and acts against the provision of safe, non-violent and inclusive learning environments for all.

Links:

[Safe online learning in times of Covid-19](#) [1]

[Safe online learning in times of Covid-19 \(in Hindi\)](#) [2]

Themes:

[School violence and bullying](#) [3]

Regions:

[Asia and the Pacific](#) [4]

[India](#) [5]

Resource types:

[Advocacy materials](#) [6]

Keywords:

bullying [7]

information technology [8]

violence [9]

Languages:

English [10]

Hindi [11]

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Links

[1] <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000373605/PDF/373605eng.pdf.multi>

[2] https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000373605_hin/PDF/373605hin.pdf.multi

[3] https://hivhealthclearinghouse.unesco.org/library/search/_all_/theme/school-violence-and-bullying

[4] https://hivhealthclearinghouse.unesco.org/library/search/_all_/region/asia-and-pacific

[5] https://hivhealthclearinghouse.unesco.org/library/search/_all_/region/india

[6] https://hivhealthclearinghouse.unesco.org/library/search/_all_/type/advocacy-materials

[7] https://hivhealthclearinghouse.unesco.org/library/search/_all_/keyword/bullying

[8] https://hivhealthclearinghouse.unesco.org/library/search/_all_/keyword/information-technology

[9] https://hivhealthclearinghouse.unesco.org/library/search/_all_/keyword/violence

[10] https://hivhealthclearinghouse.unesco.org/library/search/_all_/language/english

[11] https://hivhealthclearinghouse.unesco.org/library/search/_all_/language/hindi