

SCHOOL Climate Survey

A Survey for Students in Grades 4 to 6 About:

- **Equity and Inclusive Education**
- **Bullying/Harassment**



Name of school: _____

School ID: _____

Name of school board/authority: _____

Board ID: _____

Date: _____

Sample survey for use by schools or boards

SCHOOL Climate Survey

A Survey for Students in Grades 4 to 6 About:

- **Equity and Inclusive Education**
- **Bullying/Harassment**



Welcome.

Thank you for agreeing to complete this survey.

The purpose of this school climate survey is to find out about equity and inclusive education, and about bullying and harassment, at your school. This information will be used by your principal and teachers to help make your school a safe place in which everyone is respected and feels that they belong.

Schools need to be safe and welcoming places so that students can feel comfortable enough to learn.

Please do not put your name on this survey. Your answers are confidential. We are interested in what you and other students have to say.



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: 4 5 6
2. Are you a boy or girl? Check one: Boy Girl
3. What is your first language (the first one you learned to speak)? _____
4. How long have you lived in Canada? All my life Part of my life: _____ years

About the Survey

This survey has two sections. The first section deals with **equity and inclusive education**, and the second is about **bullying/harassment**.

Equity and inclusive education are very important for all schools in Ontario. An inclusive school is one in which:

- all students, parents, school staff, and other members of the school community are welcomed and respected;
- every student is supported and inspired to learn.

In a school where equity and inclusive education are important, all members of the school feel safe, comfortable, and accepted. Staff and students value the differences among people and demonstrate respect for others. An equitable, inclusive education system helps all students to learn and to fulfil their potential.

When students behave in a way that is not respectful towards other students – in a way that is meant to hurt them or put them down – they are often reacting to differences that they do not understand. This way of behaving includes bullying and harassment. These students do not realize that diversity – what makes people different from one another – is one of the best things about their school. When people respect and accept one another and their many differences, there can be no bullying or harassment.

In the first section of this survey, you will be asked questions about how you feel about your school, whether you feel welcome and comfortable at school events and on school teams or clubs, and whether you are learning about the experiences of various groups of people. In the second section, you will read about different types of bullying/harassment, and answer questions about bullying and harassment that may have happened in your school.

Remember: Your answers to this survey will help make schools safer and better for all students.

5. How do you feel about your school?

Always Often Sometimes Never

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| a) I enjoy being at school. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| b) My school is a friendly place. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| c) My school building is a comfortable place to learn. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| d) I feel accepted by students in my school. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| e) I feel accepted by adults in my school. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| f) I can get extra help at my school when I need it. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

6. Do you ever feel unwelcome or uncomfortable at your school because of any of the following? (Please check the items that apply to you.)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Being a boy or a girl | <input type="radio"/> A disability that I have |
| <input type="radio"/> My race, culture, or skin colour | <input type="radio"/> My activities, hobbies, or clothing, because <i>[if you are a boy]</i> they aren't what people think boys are supposed to like or <i>[if you are a girl]</i> they aren't what people think girls are supposed to like |
| <input type="radio"/> My Aboriginal background (First Nation, Métis, Inuit) | <input type="radio"/> Other reason(s) _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> My first language | _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> My grades or marks | _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> My appearance | |
| <input type="radio"/> My religion or faith | |
| <input type="radio"/> My family's level of income | |

7. Are there school activities, teams, or clubs that you are part of or would like to take part in but do not feel that you are welcome or that you belong?

- Yes No (If you answered no, skip to question 8).

If you do not feel that you are welcome or that you belong, do you think it is because of any of the following? (Please check the items that apply to you.)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Being a boy or a girl | <input type="radio"/> A disability that I have |
| <input type="radio"/> My race, culture, or skin colour | <input type="radio"/> My activities, hobbies, or clothing, because <i>[if you are a boy]</i> they aren't what people think boys are supposed to like or <i>[if you are a girl]</i> they aren't what people think girls are supposed to like |
| <input type="radio"/> My Aboriginal background (First Nation, Métis, Inuit) | <input type="radio"/> Other reason(s) _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> My first language | _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> My grades or marks | _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> My appearance | |
| <input type="radio"/> My religion or faith | |
| <input type="radio"/> My family's level of income | |



8

8. In your school, how often have you learned about the experiences and/or achievements of:

Often Sometimes Never

- a) women and girls
- b) Aboriginal peoples (First Nation, Métis, Inuit)
- c) people of many races, cultures, and skin colours
- d) many religious/faith communities
- e) people with disabilities
- f) gay or lesbian people, or different kinds of families
- g) people with different income levels

9

9. In your school, members of diverse groups appear in:

Strongly agree Agree Disagree Strongly disagree Not sure

- a) pictures or posters in the school
- b) displays of student work
- c) materials used in class (e.g., books, videos)
- d) discussions and presentations about topics studied in class
- e) school publications (e.g., yearbooks, newspapers)
- f) special events and celebrations

10

10. Do you feel that you get the support you need at your school to learn to the best of your ability?

- Yes No Not sure

If you answered no, do you think that you do not get the support you need because of any of the following? (Please check the items that apply to you.)

- Being a boy or a girl
- My race, culture, or skin colour
- My Aboriginal background (First Nation, Métis, Inuit)
- My first language
- My grades or marks
- My appearance
- My religion or faith
- My family's level of income
- A disability that I have
- My activities, hobbies, or clothing, because [if you are a boy] they aren't what people think boys are supposed to like or [if you are a girl] they aren't what people think girls are supposed to like
- Other reason(s) _____



11. Do you feel that school rules have been applied to you in a fair way:

- all the time? some of the time? Not sure
 most of the time? rarely?

If the school rules have *not* been applied to you fairly, do you think it is because of any of the following? (Please check the items that apply to you.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Being a boy or a girl | <input type="radio"/> A disability that I have |
| <input type="radio"/> My race, culture, or skin colour | <input type="radio"/> My activities, hobbies, or clothing, because
[if you are a boy] they aren't what people
think boys are supposed to like or |
| <input type="radio"/> My Aboriginal background
(First Nation, Métis, Inuit) | [if you are a girl] they aren't what people
think girls are supposed to like |
| <input type="radio"/> My first language | <input type="radio"/> Other reason(s) _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> My grades or marks | _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> My appearance | _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> My religion or faith | |
| <input type="radio"/> My family's level of income | |

12. Do you feel that you are treated by the adults in your school:

- the same way as everyone else? worse than others?
 better than others?

If you feel that you are treated better or worse than others, do you think it is because of any of the following? (Please check the items that apply to you.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Being a boy or a girl | <input type="radio"/> A disability that I have |
| <input type="radio"/> My race, culture, or skin colour | <input type="radio"/> My activities, hobbies, or clothing, because
[if you are a boy] they aren't what people
think boys are supposed to like or |
| <input type="radio"/> My Aboriginal background
(First Nation, Métis, Inuit) | [if you are a girl] they aren't what people
think girls are supposed to like |
| <input type="radio"/> My first language | <input type="radio"/> Other reason(s) _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> My grades or marks | _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> My appearance | _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> My religion or faith | |
| <input type="radio"/> My family's level of income | |

13. Have you ever requested a religious accommodation (e.g., time away from school to observe a religious holiday; permission to observe a religious practice during school hours; permission to wear an item of clothing connected with a religious belief)?

- Yes No

If you answered yes, was your request for a religious accommodation met?

- Yes No

If your request was not met, what reason were you given? _____

Section 2 **Bullying/Harassment**

Actions meant to hurt another person's feelings or to put a person down are called **bullying/harassing** behaviours. Bullying is a form of harassment.

In this section, we will be using the words “bullying/harassment” for behaviours such as:

- saying hurtful things to someone about their appearance, their intelligence, or their abilities;
- posting hurtful comments about someone online;
- hurting someone by hitting, kicking, or pinching them, or in some other physical way;
- leaving someone out or treating them badly because of who they are.

The same person or group of people is often bullied or harassed over and over again. This can happen on or off school grounds.

Bullying/harassment is not an accident. Even though students may sometimes feel pressured by other students to bully or harass someone, they are still acting in a way that is meant to hurt or upset that person. And behaviour that is hurtful to others is unacceptable behaviour.

Different forms and types of bullying/harassment are described on the following pages. The information provided there will help you answer the questions in this section.



Forms That Bullying/Harassment Might Take

Physical

- pushing, tripping, hitting
- taking or breaking someone's belongings on purpose

Verbal

- calling someone names, teasing, or making fun of them
- insulting, humiliating, or threatening someone

Social

- leaving someone out of "the group" or refusing to play with them
- making someone look silly
- saying bad things about someone
- telling others not to talk to someone
- showing pictures or other things that are rude or insulting

Electronic

- using the Internet or a cell phone to e-mail or send text messages or pictures in order to threaten someone, hurt their feelings, embarrass them or make them look bad, or spread rumours or tell secrets about them



Types and Examples of Bullying/Harassment

Racial/ethnocultural

- treating someone badly because of their race, culture, or skin colour
- saying bad things about someone's race, culture, or skin colour
- telling racist jokes

Sexual

- making sexual comments or jokes about someone's body
- touching, pinching, or grabbing part of someone's body in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable

Gender Role-based

- treating someone badly because they are a boy or a girl
- leaving someone out or treating them hurtfully – for example, telling a girl she cannot play a sport because she is a girl
- making hurtful comments about someone's hobby – for example, calling a boy a “sissy” because he likes a hobby you think only girls should like

Homophobic

- calling someone “gay” or “lesbian” in a way meant to upset them
- calling someone “gay” or “lesbian” because of their choice of activities, hobbies, or clothing
- making fun of someone who has parents who are lesbian or gay

Religion-based

- treating someone badly because of their religion
- saying bad things about someone's religion

Disability-based

- treating someone badly because of a disability they have – for example, making jokes about a person who uses a wheelchair (visible disability) or calling a person names because he or she learns in a different way than you do (invisible disability) – or spreading rumours about someone because of a disability you think that person *may* have
- making someone feel left out because of a disability they have (visible or invisible) or a disability you think they *may* have

Income-based

- treating someone badly because of the type of housing or the neighbourhood they live in
- making jokes about someone because they do not appear to have a lot of money (e.g., because they may not have name-brand clothing, or because of where they live)

How safe do you feel at school? “Feeling safe” means feeling comfortable, relaxed, and not worried that someone could harm your body, hurt your feelings, or damage your belongings.

In questions 14 to 16, check one answer for each of the places listed that best describes how you feel in them.

14. How safe do you feel in the following places?

	Very safe	Safe	Not safe
a) Lunchroom or eating area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) School washrooms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Classrooms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Gym	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Gym change rooms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) School buses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) School grounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) School entrances/exits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i) Hallways	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

15. How safe do you feel on your way to and from school?

16. How safe do you feel in your neighbourhood or community?

When you answer the following questions, think about **THE PAST FOUR WEEKS**. During the past four weeks ...

17. Have you been bullied/harassed at school?

Not once in 4 weeks	Once or twice in 4 weeks	Every week	Many times a week	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

18. Have you been bullied/harassed on your way to or from school?

19. Have you bullied/harassed others at school?



Not once in 4 weeks Once or twice in 4 weeks Every week Many times a week Don't know

20

20. Have you bullied/harassed other students on the way to or from school?

————— ————— ————— —————

21

21. In the past four weeks at school, how often have other students bullied/harassed you ...

a) physically?

Examples: pushed, tripped, or hit you; taken or broken your belongings on purpose

————— ————— ————— —————

b) verbally?

Examples: called you names, teased, or made fun of you; said mean things to you; embarrassed or threatened you

————— ————— ————— —————

c) socially?

Examples: left you out of their group, said bad things about you, made you look silly in front of others, refused to play with you, got other students not to talk to you or not to like you

————— ————— ————— —————

d) electronically?

Examples: used the Internet or a cell phone to e-mail or send text messages or pictures in order to threaten you, hurt your feelings, embarrass you, make you look bad, or tell secrets about you

————— ————— ————— —————

22

22. In the past four weeks at school, how often have other students bullied/harassed you ...

a) because of race, ethnicity, or culture?

Examples: treated you badly because of your race, culture, or skin colour; said bad things or joked about your race, culture, or skin colour

————— ————— ————— —————

b) sexually?

Examples: made jokes about your body; touched, pinched, or grabbed part of your body in a way that made you feel uncomfortable

————— ————— ————— —————

c) because you are a boy or a girl

Examples: left you out or made hurtful comments about you because you are a girl or a boy

————— ————— ————— —————

Not once in 4 weeks Once or twice in 4 weeks Every week Many times a week Don't know

- d) because of homophobia?** ————— ————— ————— ————— —————
- Examples: called you “gay” or “lesbian” in a way meant to upset you; called you “gay” or “lesbian” because of your choice of activities, hobbies, or clothing
- e) because of religion?** ————— ————— ————— ————— —————
- Examples: treated you badly because of your religion; said bad things about your religion
- f) because of a disability?** ————— ————— ————— ————— —————
- Examples: treated you badly, refused to play with you, or made jokes about you because of a disability you have or a disability they think you may have
- g) because of income?** ————— ————— ————— ————— —————
- Examples: made jokes about the type of housing or the neighbourhood you live in; treated you badly or called you names because of your clothing or where you live

23. In the past four weeks at school, how often have you seen or heard about another student being bullied/harassed ...

- a) physically?** ————— ————— ————— ————— —————
- Examples: pushed, tripped, or hit; had their belongings taken or broken on purpose
- b) verbally?** ————— ————— ————— ————— —————
- Examples: called names, teased, or made fun of; spoken to meanly; embarrassed or threatened
- c) socially?** ————— ————— ————— ————— —————
- Examples: left out of groups or games, gossiped or talked about, made to look silly in front of others
- d) electronically?** ————— ————— ————— ————— —————
- Examples: hurt, threatened, embarrassed, made to look bad, or had secrets told by other students through the Internet, e-mail, or cell-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

24. In the past four weeks at school, how often have you seen or heard about another student being bullied/harassed ...

a) because of race, ethnicity, or culture?

Examples: treated badly because of their race, culture, or skin colour; had bad things said to them or about them based on their race, culture, or skin colour

b) sexually?

Examples: had jokes made about their body; had part of their body touched, pinched, or grabbed in a way that made them uncomfortable

c) because of being a boy or a girl

Examples: treated badly because they are a boy or a girl; left out or had hurtful comments made about them because they are a girl or a boy

d) because of homophobia?

Examples: called "gay" or "lesbian" in a way meant to upset them; called "gay" or "lesbian" because of their choice of activities, hobbies, or clothing

e) because of religion?

Examples: treated badly because of their religion; had bad things said to them about their religion

f) because of a disability?

Examples: treated badly, left out, or had jokes made about them because of a disability they have or a disability others think they may have

g) because of income?

Examples: treated badly or called names because of their clothing or where they live; had jokes made about the type of housing or the neighbourhood they live in



Not once
in 4
weeks

Once or
twice in 4
weeks

Every
week

Many
times a
week

Don't
know

25. In the past four weeks at school, how often have you, either on your own or as part of a group, bullied/harassed other students ...

a) physically?

Examples: pushed, tripped, or hit someone; taken or broken their belongings on purpose

b) verbally?

Examples: called someone names, teased or made fun of them, spoken to them meanly, embarrassed or threatened them

c) socially?

Examples: left someone out of groups or games on purpose, gossiped or said bad things about them, made them look silly in front of others, got other students not to like them or talk to them

d) electronically?

Examples: used the Internet, e-mail, or cell-phone text messages or pictures to hurt, threaten, or embarrass someone, to make them look bad, or to tell secrets about them

26. In the past four weeks at school, how often have you, either on your own or as part of a group, bullied/harassed other students ...

a) because of race, ethnicity, or culture?

Examples: treated someone badly because of their race, culture, or skin colour; said bad things or joked about their race, culture, or skin colour

b) sexually?

Examples: made jokes about someone's body; touched, pinched, or grabbed someone's body in a way that made them uncomfortable

c) because they are a boy or a girl

Examples: left them out or made hurtful comments about them because they are a girl or a boy

Not once in 4 weeks Once or twice in 4 weeks Every week Many times a week Don't know

d) because of homophobia?

Examples: called someone "gay" or "lesbian" in a way meant to upset them; called someone "gay" or "lesbian" because of their choice of activities, hobbies, or clothing

e) because of religion?

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

f) because of a disability?

Examples: treated someone badly, refused to play with them, or made jokes about them because of a disability they have or a disability you think they may have

g) because of income?

Examples: treated someone badly or called them names because of their clothing or where they live; made jokes about the type of housing or the neighbourhood they live in

27. In the past four weeks at school, how often have you tried to help another student who was being bullied/harassed?



Always Often Sometimes Never They don't appear to notice it Not sure

28. Do you think teachers try to stop bullying/harassment?

29. Do you think the principal or vice-principal tries to stop bullying/harassment?

30. Where does bullying/harassment happen at your school? (Check as many as you want.)

- Classrooms
- Washrooms
- Hallways
- On the school bus
- School entrances or exits
- Coatroom or locker areas
- Library
- Playground
- Gym
- Lunch or eating area
- Change rooms
- Other places (please say where): _____

31. When does bullying/harassment happen most? (Check as many as you want.)

- On the way to and from school
- Between classes
- Before school
- During breaks or at recess
- At lunch time
- After school
- During classes
- On field trips



32

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

- I have not seen or heard another student being bullied/harassed. (Go to question 34.)
- I did not do anything about it.
- I told my parent(s) or guardian(s) about it.
- I told my teacher about it.
- I told my principal or vice-principal about it.
- I told an adult at school about it.
- I told an adult outside of school about it.
- I told another student about it.
- I helped the person who was being bullied/harassed *while* they were being bullied/harassed.
- I helped the person who was being bullied/harassed later on.
- I stood and watched.
- I made a joke about it.
- I joined in the bullying/harassing.
- I got someone to help stop it.
- I stood up to the person who was doing it.
- I got back at the person who was doing it.

33

33. If you did not do anything the last time you saw or heard about another student being bullied/harassed, what was the reason? (Check any that are true for you.)

- I didn't want to get involved.
- I was afraid.
- I did not know what to do or who to talk to.
- If I told someone, they wouldn't do anything about it.
- I didn't want to tell on other people.
- I didn't think the bullying/harassment was so bad.
- It wasn't any of my business or my problem.
- I didn't want to get in trouble for telling.
- I didn't think it would make a difference if I got involved.
- I thought I might be bullied/harassed myself if I did something.

34. Think of the last time you were bullied/harassed. What did you do?

(Check any that are true for you.)

- I have not been bullied/harassed.
(Go to question 36.)
- I ignored it.
- I told my parent(s) or guardian(s) about it.
- I told my teacher about it.
- I told my principal or vice-principal about it.
- I told an adult at school about it.
- I told an adult outside of school about it.
- I told another student about it.
- I called a helpline.
- I fought back.
- I got someone to help stop it.
- I made a joke of it.
- I stood up to the person who was doing it.
- I got back at the person who was doing it.

35. If you did not do anything the last time you were bullied/harassed, what was the reason?

(Pick one.)

- I was afraid.
- I did not know what to do or who to talk to.
- I thought if I told someone, they wouldn't do anything about it.
- I did not want to tell on other people.
- I didn't think the bullying/harassment was so bad.
- I didn't want to get in trouble for telling.
- I didn't think it would make a difference.
- I thought I would get bullied/harassed more.

36. Do you feel you could talk to an adult at school if you were being bullied/harassed?

(Check one answer.)

- Yes Not sure No

37. How often do you report or tell someone about bullying/harassment that you have seen or heard about?

- Always Often Sometimes Never

38. Are you aware of how to report bullying/harassment at school?

- Yes No Don't know

Is there anything else that you want to tell us about how safe you feel at your school?



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

You can talk to any adult that you trust – your principal,
your parent(s) or guardian(s), a counsellor, or a teacher.

We want to help.

**THANK YOU
FOR COMPLETING
THIS SURVEY.**

09-034

ISBN 978-1-4435-1243-5 (PDF)

© Queen's Printer for Ontario, 2009

Cette publication est disponible en français