

If your child displays some of the following signs this may be an indication that they are being bullied:

- be unwilling to go to school
- beg you to drive them to school
- change their route to school
- begin doing poorly in their school work or show variation in performance
- have clothes or possessions which are damaged, destroyed or lost.
- become withdrawn, clingy, moody aggressive, uncooperative or non-communicative
- show a marked change in a well established pattern of behaviour
- have sleep or appetite problems
- complain of illness more frequently
- have unexplained bruises, scratches, cuts or pains
- have their possessions go 'missing'
- request extra money or begin stealing money (to pay the bully).

However, it must be remembered that these signs can also be an indication of other problems or simply of the onset of adolescence and may not always be linked to bullying.

Try to follow the school guidance on dealing with bullying incidents. This should be part of the school's policy on anti-bullying – ask for a copy to be given to you if you do not already have it

