

A COMPANION CARD TO "FAKE IMAGES, REAL HARM"

Questions to ask your child's school

About AI-generated explicit images of students.

NCMEC's back-to-school checklist tells parents they "can also talk with their child's school about how it responds to AI-generated explicit images". Most schools have a phone policy and a bullying policy. Fewer have one that names this. Ask before you need the answer.

Ask the principal, counselor or dean of students

- 1 Does the school have a written policy that names AI-generated or altered explicit images specifically, beyond a general bullying or phone policy?
- 2 Who do I contact first if my child is in one of these images, and who takes over after hours or over a weekend?
- 3 What happens in the first 24 hours? Who is told, who is not, and when am I called?
- 4 Are staff told never to copy, forward or keep the image themselves, and who is the one person who handles it?
- 5 How do you protect the student in the image from being treated as the problem (schedule, classes, lunch, the bus)?
- 6 Do you teach students directly that creating or sharing one of these is never okay, and at what grade does that start?
- 7 Does the school report to NCMEC's CyberTipline, and does it tell the family that it did? When do you call the police?
- 8 What support is offered to the child afterward: counseling, a check-in plan, a way back into the room?
- 9 Are your staff aware that NCMEC publishes free tip sheets and a safety presentation for educators on this exact issue?

Two things to do while you're there

Ask for the policy in writing. A policy nobody can hand you is a policy nobody follows.

Write down who you spoke with and the date. If it ever becomes serious, that note is the first thing anyone will ask you for.

If it has already happened

- Report to NCMEC's CyberTipline: report.cybertip.org or 1-800-843-5678
- Ask the platform to remove it. Federal law now gives covered platforms 48 hours. If they don't act: TakeItDown.ftc.gov
- NCMEC's Take It Down tool, free, if the image is on your child's own device: takeitdown.ncmec.org
- For educators: NCMEC's tip sheets and safety presentation are at missingkids.org/netsmartz/resources. For families: ncmec.org/backtoschool
- A child in crisis: call or text 988, any hour

Notes from my visit

Date: _____ I spoke with: _____

Their title: _____ Phone or email: _____

Written policy? Where is it? _____

First contact if it happens: _____

After hours: _____

What they said they'd do in the first 24 hours: _____

What I still need an answer to: _____

[Note: This touches on legal territory. School obligations vary by state and district, and conduct like this can carry criminal consequences. Verify with law enforcement or a licensed attorney before acting on it.]

Source: National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, Emma Henderson Vaughan, "Back-to-School Checklist: Talk About AI 'Nudify' Apps," August 11, 2026 (missingkids.org), quotation checked against the source page September 17, 2026. Federal Trade Commission, Consumer Advice, May 19, 2026, on the TAKE IT DOWN Act. The questions are Truestone's, built on NCMEC's recommendation. © 2026 The Truestone Project.