

About the TipOff Service at HWDSB

What is TipOff?

At HWDSB, the TipOff service helps make schools safer and more welcoming for students, staff and parents. TipOff receives anonymous tips and helps school staff respond using normal school and Board protocols. TipOff uses mobile communications technology like that found in large sporting stadiums across North America.

Why would someone use TipOff?

It's Accessible!

- You can TEXT a report to 905-963-0066 from any cell phone.
- You can CALL 905-963-0066 from a landline or mobile phone.
- You can download the TipOff APP and send tips using an iPhone or Android smartphone
- You can share tips using WEB CHAT at <http://goo.gl/kq4snT>

It's Anonymous!

- You can report bullying, crime, violence without fear of reprisal, judgment or discovery

Does reporting a concern via TipOff cost money?

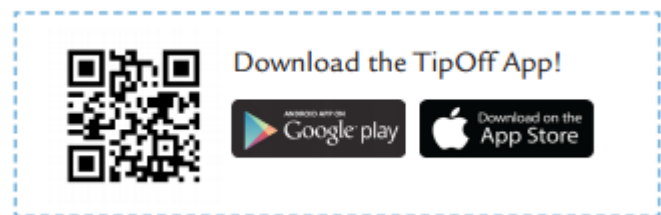
It depends on your phone plan. Standard text messaging rates apply. The app is free on the app store for Apple and Android devices.

What should students report?

We hope that students will share anonymous tips on bullying, student safety and crime to make our schools safer.

What number do students text?

You can text 905-963-0066. You can also use web chat at <http://goo.gl/kq4snT> or download and use the smartphone app. This creates what we call a 'conversation.'



Can I also call that number?

Yes, but TipOff will not engage in phone conversations. The automated prompts allow you to connect via text, or to contact emergency supports.

Will TipOff provide counselling?

No. TipOff's operator will never offer counselling. It is an information service. It will refer you to 911 if you are in crisis. Your school can provide the full support it does every day.

How are tips used?

TipOff labels each tip according to the type of incident and where it occurred. (e.g. #bullying, #theft, #onschoolproperty). Labels help HWDSB learn more about the needs of our students and schools. It also helps staff understand how TipOff is being used.

Your tip will always remain anonymous in the TipOff system. School officials may ask for your identity if your tip is of an urgent nature that requires face-to-face conversation. HWDSB staff review conversations frequently to understand how tips are handled, how many tips are being received and how satisfied users are with TipOff.

How does TipOff work?

