

Toronto Catholic District School Board

Dr. Brendan Browne

Chief Executive Officer

Adrian Della Mora

Chief Education Officer

Michael A. Caccamo

Superintendent of Education Safe Schools and Curriculum Leadership & Innovation

Catholic Education Centre

80 Sheppard Avenue East
Toronto ON M2N 6E8
www.tcdsb.org







2026 - 2027

Safe Schools Plan





At Toronto Catholic
we transform the world through witness,
faith, innovation and action.











SCHOOL NAME	Bishop Macdonell Catholic School
SUPERINTENDENT:	Flora Cifelli
SCHOOL ADDRESS:	20 Brunel Crt Toronto ON M5V 0R5
STUDENT ENROLMENT:	527

PRINCIPAL: Van Zon, Lorraine

OUR MISSION

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community rooted in the love of Christ. We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge and to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.

OUR VISION

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.

We believe in the worth and dignity of every person and that people thrive in a safe, healthy and compassionate environment. We strive to foster student achievement and well-being by providing all students with safe, healthy learning environment.

One of the ways we can achieve this goal is by using a whole-school approach to develop and nurture a positive school climate. The Safe Schools Action Team will consist of a variety of stakeholders in each school community responsible for advising the principal about school safety. The team will collaborate with the principal to create the local Safe Schools Plan.

SAFE AND ACCEPTING SCHOOLS TEAM

Administrative Rep	**Bryce, Mark**	**Parent Rep**	**Nikki Laxamana**
Administrative Rep	**Lorraine van Zon**	**Student Rep**	**Kensington M.**
Teacher Rep	**Bernardino, Ron**	**Community Rep**	**Sara Margani of BluGenes.org**
Teacher Rep	**De Angelis, Lori**		

SAFE SCHOOLS PLAN

All schools are required to develop and implement school-wide plans to help create a safe, caring and inclusive learning environment. Each Safe Schools Plan will consist of the following components:

1. Bullying Awareness, Intervention and Prevention
2. Progressive Discipline
3. Promoting a Positive School Climate
4. Emergency Response Plan

In order for all students, staff members and parents/visitors in the school facility to be prepared to respond to a serious threat, the response procedures must be practiced. The Toronto Police/School Board Protocol, 2011 requires a minimum of 2 Lockdown Drills every school year.

Please see below for the scheduled drills:

LOCKDOWN DRILLS 2026-2027

1	**2026-02-19**	**2**	**2026-05-21**
3	**2026-12-03**	**4**	**2027-04-27**

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

1. Bullying Awareness, Intervention and Prevention Plan

Providing students with an opportunity to learn and develop in a safe and respectful society is a key goal of the TCDSB. Providing students with an opportunity to learn and develop in a safe and respectful environment supports academic achievement for all students, which in turn, helps them to reach their full potential. Research and experience show that bullying is a serious issue that has far-reaching consequences for individuals, their families and peers and the entire school community. Schools that have bullying intervention and prevention strategies foster a positive learning and teaching environment that supports academic achievement for all students and that helps students reach their full potential. PPM 144

School Vision	Bishop Macdonell's school vision is to provide our students with the skills, abilities, and values to make positive, well-thought out decisions based on Gospel Values that will then create a positive, safe and nurturing school learning environment.
Goal #1	With the input from representatives of each Bishop Macdonell stakeholder group (students, parents, teachers, admin), including the student representative groups formed within the last 2 years (PREFECTS, Mental Health Committee, and Lunch Leaders), develop and implement a variety of Bullying Awareness & Prevention programs and resources to reach the diverse groups of students now found at Bishop Macdonell.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-Further drive home school-specific Code of Conduct with parents, teachers, and students. Code provides much information about bullying and the school's stance on the matter. It is posted on the front page of Bishop Macdonell website in plain view, easy to access.
-Define more explicitly the roles and responsibilities of the different members of BMac's Safe and Caring Schools Committee which includes an administrator, 2 teachers, 2 students, a parent, and a community partner.
-Bullying Awareness Week announcements, activities, and events planned by Safe Schools Committee; planned, organized, and implemented by Safe School Committee (November 17-21, 2025).
-Grade-specific Anti-Bullying presentations in each classroom with pre- and post-presentation resources provided to teachers (winter 2026).
-Adult modeling and scaffolding
-Promoting Catholic Graduate Expectations, Virtues of the Month at every monthly school assembly
-Partnership with Toronto Public Health for access to resources and expertise
-Guidance Teacher, Jack Panozzo, providing targeted student and classroom discussions and supports to help prevent any bullying occurring at school
-Consistent use of curriculum (i.e., Religion, Family Life, Social Studies, and Language Arts) to reinforce anti-bullying message and safe, respectful school community
-Continue to send staff and students to TCDSB symposiums which emphasize anti-bullying/kindness curriculum

Responsibility

-Administration
-School Staff (teachers, ECEs, EAs)
-Guidance Counsellor Jack Panozzo
-SBSLT partners (APT Alexandra Matyas, Social Worker Alanna Callaghan, Psychologist Tracey Viera, SLP Deanne Smith)
-Campus Community partners (Jean Lumb P.S. staff, TNG Daycare staff, Canoe Landing Community Center staff)
-CSPC, especially members involved in the Safe Schools Committee
-Church, priest to reinforce messages in monthly school-wide masses

Resources The following resources will be utilized to support these initiatives/strategies/practices:

-Community Police Officers
-TCDSB Bullying Prevention Program
-PPMs 144 and 145
-Social Work
-Toronto Public Health
-TCDSB Multi Year Strategic Plan
-Catholic School Graduate Expectations- (Each classroom teacher has posters posted in class and will incorporated the language of the document in curriculum areas.)
-Catholic Social Justice Teachings
-Cyber Bullies platform

Measurement of Progress The following metrics will be used to measure progress in achieving the Goal:

- Feedback from TCDSB School Climate Student Survey which indicates a decrease in bullying incidents and a continuation of a caring and nurturing school environment
- Feedback from Bishop Macdonell's Annual K-8 Student Survey indicates a decrease in bullying incidents
- Decrease in the number of Incident Reports completed in the office
- Decrease in suspensions

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	Bishop Macdonell's school vision is to provide our students with the skills, abilities, and values to make positive, well-thought out decisions based on Gospel Values that will then create a positive, safe and nurturing school learning environment.
Goal #2	Explicitly teach students to identify bullying, the types of bullying, and what to do in each case. Important also is to teach them to differentiate between bullying and simply not getting along with someone else and what to do in those cases.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Empower students to advocate for themselves (through Religion/Family Life/Health programs)
- Encourage students to report incidents of bullying immediately to teacher on duty, classroom teacher, or office.
- Sharing Anti-Bullying tips with the school community in Monthly Newsletter and WAAG (Week at a Glance)
- Teachers to provide direct instruction regarding appropriate behaviours, parameters, and expectations
- Regular communication with parents/guardians
- Providing speaker for parents and (at a separate time) for students who can reinforce message; this year's focus will be cyber bullying
- Strategically placing suggestion boxes throughout the school. This is a first step for many towards self-advocacy.

Responsibility

- Entire School
- Homeroom and Specialty Teachers,
- Support staff (EA's, Child and Youth Worker, Guidance), Administration, and Parents

Resources The following resources will be utilized to support these initiatives/strategies/practices:

- Community Police Officer,
- TCDSB Bullying Prevention Program
- PPM 145
- Social Work
- Toronto Public Health
- TCDSB Multi Year Strategic Plan
- Progressive Discipline Model

Measurement of Progress The following metrics will be used to measure progress in achieving the Goal:

- Recess yard is calmer and more conducive to cooperative play
- Feedback from Annual BMac Student Survey indicates bullying incidents are decreasing
- Decrease in incident reports
- Decrease in suspensions

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	Bishop Macdonell's school vision is to provide our students with the skills, abilities, and values to make positive, well-thought out decisions based on Gospel Values that will then create a positive, safe and nurturing school learning environment.
Goal #3	Include the community as much as possible when developing Bishop Macdonell's anti-bullying protocol and processes as a community with knowledge is better able to assist with stopping bullying in its tracks.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Sharing Anti-Bullying tips with the school community in Monthly Newsletter and BMac WAAG
- Anti Bullying week activities November 2026
- In-person class/grade-specific presentations based on "Brave Education" materials provided in the previous school year.
- Student leaders (Students Council, PREFECTS, Lunch Leaders, Mental Health Committee, Safe Schools Student Committee) going to off-site workshops and symposiums to further expand their knowledge and empower them regarding anti-bullying strategies to use in the school yard and halls

Responsibility

- Entire School
- Classroom and specialty Teachers,
- Support staff (EA's, Child and Youth Worker, Guidance), Administration, and Parents

Resources The following resources will be utilized to support these initiatives/strategies/practices:

- Community Police Officer,
- TCDSB Bullying Prevention Program
- PPM 145
- Social Work
- Toronto Public Health
- TCDSB Multi Year Strategic Plan

Measurement of Progress The following metrics will be used to measure progress in achieving the Goal:

- Feedback from Safe School Student Survey which indicates a decrease in bullying situations
- Decrease in incident reports
- Decrease in suspensions
- Continuation of caring and nurturing school environment

2. Progressive Discipline Plan

Progressive discipline is a whole-school approach that utilizes a continuum of interventions, supports, and consequences to address inappropriate student behaviour and to build upon strategies that promote positive student behaviours. When inappropriate behaviour occurs, disciplinary measures should be applied within a framework that shifts the focus from one that is solely punitive to one that is both corrective and supportive. Schools should utilize a range of interventions, supports and consequences that include learning opportunities focused on reinforcing positive behaviour and helping students make good choices. PPM 145

School Vision	Bishop Macdonell's school vision is to develop and implement the Toronto Catholic District School Board Progressive Discipline policy that fosters a positive, safe and caring school climate, promotes instructive discipline, and improves student awareness of their own actions, behaviours, and consequences.
Goal #1	Consequences are designed to support the social development and future behaviour of the person responsible for the action. To address inappropriate behaviour with disciplinary measures that are both corrective and supportive. There will be an emphasis on educating the whole child and include learning opportunities for students to be better decision-makers.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Students to review the Bishop Macdonell Code of Conduct, outlined in every agenda and on the front page of the school website
- Teachers to review and reinforce expectations and appropriate behaviours;
- Teachers and students co-create classroom expectations and code of conduct to create a positive climate;
- Engage all community members in supporting newly developed Code of Conduct and student expectations;
- Regular announcements to remind students to be responsible for their actions and behave in an appropriate manner;
- Use consequences and discipline as teachable moments;
- Consideration of Mitigating Factors;
- Clear policy on bullying;
- Staff awareness of Bill 157 - duty to respond to and report incidents;
- Staff to use Incident Logs (online and/or paper form) for inappropriate student behaviour;
- In-service staff on Safe Schools Plan and Progressive Discipline Applications;
- On-going communication with parents;
- Follow Board protocol in area of Safe Schools;
- Guidance Councillor Intervention when necessary;
- Social Worker intervention when necessary;
- SBSLT, case conferences when necessary

Responsibility

-Classroom teachers
-Specialty teachers
-Support staff
-SBSLT members
-Administration
-Parent community (including CSPC)
-Priest
-Community members which occupy the same building

Resources The following resources will be utilized to support these initiatives/strategies/practices:

-Guidance Councillor
-Ontario's Equity and Inclusive Education Policy
-Safe School Action Team
-TCDSB Progressive Discipline protocol
-Restorative Justice Manual
-Capacity Building Series: Culturally Responsive Pedagogy (Ministry of Education)
-Bishop Macdonell's newly developed Code of Conduct
-Toronto Police
-Toronto Public Health

Measurement of Progress The following metrics will be used to measure progress in achieving the Goal:

-Safe School's Incident Reports (Incidents Forms and Suspensions) to objectively analyze incidents
-Administrative Log of Think Paper and Warning of Suspensions
-Staff Reporting of classroom and school yard incidences

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	Bishop Macdonell's school vision is to develop and implement the Toronto Catholic District School Board Progressive Discipline policy that fosters a positive, safe and caring school climate, promotes instructive discipline, and improves student awareness of their own actions, behaviours, and consequences.
Goal #2	To implement various preventative measures and interventions to deal with student behaviour with an individualized approach

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-Social Skills Training with Guidance Counsellor available to all teachers, students, and classrooms
-Social Skills program available to all ELP-Grade 1 students through Special Education teacher (specifically "Primary Hands" program)
-Verbal reminders of expectations
-Regular contact with parents/guardians
-Development of Behaviour Support Plan for individual students to improve behaviour
-Record keeping with respect to incident reports

Responsibility

-Classroom teachers
-Specialty teachers
-Support staff
-SBSLT members
-Administration
-Parent community (including CSPC)
-Priest
-Community members which occupy the same building

Resources The following resources will be utilized to support these initiatives/strategies/practices:

-Guidance Councillor
-Primary Hands Program
-Ontario's Equity and Inclusive Education Policy
-Safe School Action Team
-TCDSB Progressive Discipline protocol
-Restorative Justice Manual
-Capacity Building Series: Culturally Responsive Pedagogy (Ministry of Education)
-Bishop Macdonell's newly developed Code of Conduct

Measurement of Progress The following metrics will be used to measure progress in achieving the Goal:

-Safe School's Incident Reports to measure fewer incidents
-Administrative Log
-Staff Reporting of classroom and school yard incidents
-Bishop Macdonell-created pre- and post-social skills program teacher feedback sheet

3. Positive School Climate

A school should be a place that promotes responsibility, respect, civility and academic excellence in a safe learning and teaching environment. A positive school climate exists when all members of the school community feel safe, comfortable and accepted. The Safe Schools Action Team and student leadership groups can play key roles in supporting learning and practices that educate students and staff members about safety concerns. Those practices used for very challenging situations that can jeopardize the safety and well being of others include, but not limited to: Threat Assessment, Restorative Conference and Mediation Circles.

School Vision	Bishop Macdonell's school vision is to promote a positive and nurturing school climate where students, teachers, and families feel safe, accepted and respected.
Goal #1	To provide opportunities for all community members to engage in activities that demonstrate responsibility, respect and academic excellence in a safe caring learning environment. Teach students how to apply Gospel Values in their social interaction with others and how to be positive leaders in our school community.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-Student-led monthly school-wide assemblies in which we highlight Virtues of the Month
-Student-led monthly school-wide Masses in which we reinforce behaviours conducive to being part of a safe and caring school community
-Frequent announcements that act as reminders of appropriate behaviours written and produced by students
-Daily announcements that provide reminders of behaviours most appropriate to being part of a safe and caring school community
-Student Council
-CSPC with committees and subcommittees to spread parent responsibility and ownership
-School Nutrition programme
-Student-led school fundraising to raise money for different charities and student leadership training
-Student participation in Safe Schools symposiums (fall and spring) and activities

Responsibility

-Classroom teachers
-Specialty teachers
-Support staff
-SBSLT members
-Administration
-Parent community (including CSPC)
-Priest, Father Andre at St. Mary's Parish
-Community members which occupy the same building (Public School, Daycare, and Community Center)

Resources The following resources will be utilized to support these initiatives/strategies/practices:

-Guidance Councillor Jack Panozzo
-Ontario's Equity and Inclusive Education Policy
-Safe School Action Team
-TCDSB Progressive Discipline protocol
-Restorative Justice Manual
-Bishop Macdonell's newly developed Code of Conduct
-Toronto Police
-Toronto Public Health

Measurement of Progress The following metrics will be used to measure progress in achieving the Goal:

-TCDSB School Climate Survey (positive/improved results)
-Bishop Macdonell Annual K-8 Student Survey (positive/improved results)
-Fewer suspensions and incidents
-Fewer Student conflict and students actively participating in/leading restorative justice circles
-Students are more respectful to their peers, teachers and community
-Increase in well-organized student-led events and activities planned by larger groups of students

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	Bishop Macdonell's school vision is to promote a positive and nurturing school climate where students, teachers, and families feel safe, accepted and respected.
Goal #2	Development of an overall sense of calm throughout the Bishop Macdonell community, focusing on the mental health and well-being of students, staff, and to the best of our abilities, our community.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Promotion of our onsite Catholic practices throughout the wider school community. For example, with our priests' permissions, holding school masses in the community center and inviting families and friends to participate.
- Promotion of our Calming Room for JK-Grade 3 students, especially those who have challenges with dysregulation.
- Providing students with school-wide weekly experiences which incorporate Christian Meditation. The purpose of the weekly sessions is to calm students and provide another opportunity to self-regulate.
- Providing Sound Bowl classes to students and staff to teach and help maintain general calm.

Responsibility

- Entire Bishop Macdonell community, students, teachers, families all participate in all of the activities bringing calm to our school
- Staff of St. Mary's Parish

Resources The following resources will be utilized to support these initiatives/strategies/practices:

-Christian Meditation workshops and guide books
-Sound Bowl practitioner
-OISE and Tyndale B.Ed. students who assist in maintaining the on-site Calming Room
-Canoe Landing Community Center "Exploration Space"
-Donated iconic Catholic items and stories to create the chapel

Measurement of Progress The following metrics will be used to measure progress in achieving the Goal:

- decrease in overall negative behaviours in students, decrease in incidents of harm, decrease in bullying incidents
- overall kinder, calmer population of students and parents

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	Bishop Macdonell's school vision is to promote a positive and nurturing school climate where students, teachers, and families feel safe, accepted and respected.
Goal #SVP 1	To provide a range of opportunities for students (especially in Junior and Intermediate divisions) to be involved in decision-making and to take ownership of school initiatives and events. To give students as many opportunities as possible to hone strong planning and development skills and gain real leadership experiences.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

1.Bishop Macdonell Annual Student K-8 Survey

2.TCDSB School Climate Survey

3.Student Council

Responsibility

Teachers
Students
Admin

Resources The following resources will be utilized to support these initiatives/strategies/practices:

1.Bishop Macdonell Annual K-8 Student Survey

2.TCDSB School Climate Survey

3.Bishop Macdonell Student Council voted in every October after September campaigning, candidate speeches, and student voting

Measurement of Progress The following metrics will be used to measure progress in achieving the Goal:

1.Positive/improved survey results

2.Positive/improved survey results
3.Quality of campaigning and speeches, seriousness of voting, quality of Student Council mandates, quality of initiatives put forward by Student Council throughout the year

4. Emergency Response Plan

The Toronto Catholic District School Board has a primary responsibility to ensure the safety of students and staff inside Board buildings and on Board property. Central policies and procedures, developed in collaboration with the Toronto Police Service, provide direct support to school administrators in the management of crisis situations, including a lockdown response. It is the responsibility of each school to develop local procedures specific to that school, including a process by which all regular staff members, itinerant and specialist teachers and support staff, facility workers and visitors are informed of local considerations in the event of a threat to school safety. MOE Provincial Model for a Local Police/School Board Protocol

School Vision	All students, staff members and visitors will become knowledgeable about emergency procedures for threats to the safety and well-being of all persons at school, and will be able to appropriately respond according to the guidelines established by TCDSB.
Goal #1	To plan, practice and evaluate a minimum of 4 Lockdown Drills in this school year; one drill per term.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Practice of Lockdowns, Hold & Secures, Shelter in Place, and Fire Drills
- Assistance of TPS to conduct non-traditional lockdown drill
- TPS to debrief with staff after non-traditional lockdown drill
- Copies of the updated Emergency Response Procedures posted in every classroom
- Review of Lockdown and Fire drills protocol at staff meetings
- Reminders to students via announcements and review by staff
- First Aid certification of staff members
- Awareness and in-service of anaphylaxis protocol
- An emergency folder with safety protocols provided to Occasional Teachers when they sign in at the Main Office

Responsibility

- Safe School Action Team
- All Staff members, permanent and occasional
- Police Partners (31 & 14 Divisions)
- Fire Safety Marshalls
- Entire Canoe Landing Campus team and all partners including public school, daycare, and community center

Resources The following resources will be utilized to support these initiatives/strategies/practices:

- Emergency Response Procedures Posters
- TCDSB Threats to School Safety Response Procedures
- Police Partners
- Canoe Landing Campus Guides

Measurement of Progress The following metrics will be used to measure progress in achieving the Goal:

- Positive Assessment of Lockdown and Fire drills (4 lockdown practices, a Hold & Secure, a Shelter in Place, and six fire drills per year)
- Work in collaboration with the Toronto Fire Department for feedback on fire drills
- Work in collaboration with the Toronto Police Services for feedback on lockdown drills
- Kipling Building Management post-drill reports emailed to all Canoe Landing partners following each drill (looking for improvements in drill times and quality of interactions between all partners)