

Toronto Catholic District School Board

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2026 - 2027

Safe Schools Plan





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











SCHOOL NAME	Father Serra Catholic School
SUPERINTENDENT:	Richard Walo
SCHOOL ADDRESS:	111 Sun Row Dr Toronto ON M9P 3J3
STUDENT ENROLMENT:	538

PRINCIPAL: Ochnik, Marlena

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	**Ochnik, Marlena**	**Support Staff Rep**	**Antoniazzi, Lisa**
Teacher Rep	**Papasodaro, Connie**	**Parent Rep**	**Effie Johnson**

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	**2026-09-24**	**2**	**2026-11-10**
3	**2027-02-23**	**4**	**2027-03-30**

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	To create a positive school climate where all students thrive in a safe, inclusive, and healthy learning community rooted in the love of Christ. Students will be able to identify bullying behaviours, advocate for themselves and others and respond to bullying behaviours in appropriate ways. The development of self-discipline and self-regulation is a positive goal to work towards as students learn to live the Gospel values.
Goal #1	Through a number of opportunities, the students will understand the definition of bullying. Students will also develop strategies to become upstanders and learn about bullying prevention strategies.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Building healthy relationships between students and other students; students and staff; staff and staff, and staff and parents
- Guidance counselor class discussions; shared resources
- Promote and foster a kind, inclusive and welcoming environment that is apparent in the entrance of the school and throughout
- Model and encourage positive and healthy behaviours and interactions
- Healthy communication between all stakeholders - staff, students, parents, parish and wider community
- Create opportunities for students to problem-solve and express themselves in ways that empower both themselves and others
- Promote TCDSB monthly virtues in the classroom and school-wide monthly assemblies honouring each Virtue student leaders
- Promote Catholic Graduate Expectations at all grade levels, in age appropriate language and activities
- Encouragement of classroom conversations around the nature of bullying, with explicit reference to definitions and scenarios
- Communication of antibullying initiatives and strategies to the entire community through CSPC, and via School Messenger communications
- Immediate response to bullying situations with attention to progressive discipline and the Father Serra Progressive Discipline Model - found in the agenda and reinforced at Assemblies, over the announcements and in communications with parents via School Messenger
- School-wide focus on virtues of the month and how they promote a welcoming and inclusive school community
- Feeling Explorers program provided through George Hull to select Primary classes.
- together with our CSPC - provide a Speakers Series that will deal with these and related topics

Responsibility

- Students
- Staff
- Parents
- Administration
- Student Leaders

-resource personnel (Social worker, Guidance Counselor, etc.)
-lunchtime supervisors
-Parish partners

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

- E.A.support
- Guidance
- Safe Schools Department
- Police/School Board Protocol
- School weekly community bulletins via School Messenger, staff emails
- Father Serra Code of Conduct found in the Agenda
- Progressive discipline protocol
- TCDSB staff members can access safe school resources and share curriculum units through the TCDSB Share Point site, accessible through the TCDSB secure access login.
-School Board resource personnel

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

- Decrease in the number of progressive discipline incidents reported
- Student response to Safe School Survey
- Safe School Statistics
- Standing item for discussion and sharing of best practices at monthly Staff Meetings

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

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Goal #2	To communicate and review bullying prevention resources and strategies on a regular basis.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Building healthy relationships in order to teach students to report incidents of bullying without fear of retaliation
- Promote and foster a kind, inclusive and welcoming environment so all students feel that they belong and comfortable disclosing bullying about themselves or others
- Create opportunities for students to problem-solve and express themselves in ways that empower both themselves and others
- use strategies from the resource, Hacking School Discipline, to shift the mindset of consequences and punishment
- Promote TCDSB monthly virtues and Catholic Graduate Expectations in the classroom and school-wide at monthly assemblies
- Encouragement of classroom conversations around the nature of bullying, with explicit reference to definitions and scenarios
- Communicate antibullying initiatives and strategies to the entire community through CSPC, and School Messenger communications
- Respond in a timely manner to bullying situations with attention to progressive discipline and the Father Serra Progressive Discipline School Model
- Masses lead by classes each month - together with the Parish
- Consistently praise the positive and celebrate school achievements (team wins, etc.) at monthly assemblies
-CSPC Initiatives - Career Day, Halloween Howl, Fun Fair, Christmas Market, etc., to build community
- Engaging students as active and valued leaders within the school community (e.g., participation in school assemblies, lunch monitors, reading buddies, etc.)
- Initiatives organized by the Mental Health Action Team - Mindful Mondays - school-wide meditation
-Intramurals for Junior and Intermediate students during recesses

Responsibility

- Students
- Staff
- Parents and Community Members
- Administration

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

- Guidance
- Safe Schools Department
- Police/School Board Protocol
- School weekly bulletins via School Messenger
- Regular communications home via School Messenger
- Father Serra Code of Conduct
- Progressive discipline protocol
- TCDSB staff members can access safe school resources and share curriculum units through the TCDSB Share Point site, accessible through the TCDSB secure access login.
- TCDSB Safe Schools Bullying Awareness and Prevention Toolkit to support healthy relationships and address the problems of bullying behaviour
- Hacking School Discipline and Hacking School Discipline Together

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

- Students will be able to explicitly state the impact of bullying and how and who to tell when bullying occurs.
-students will not be as fearful to discuss bullying behaviours of others, for fear of being called a 'snitch' - more honest and open conversations will occur.

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

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Goal #3	To increase all students' awareness of bullying behavior and its effects on students.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Encouragement of classroom conversations around the nature of bullying, with explicit reference to definitions and scenarios, and our progressive discipline model, Role-Play
- School wide assemblies on bullying in all its forms and the serious consequences
- Communication of antibullying initiatives and strategies to the entire community through CSPC, newsletters, and the school portal
- Immediate response to bullying situations with attention to progressive discipline
- Ensure that yard supervision is monitored appropriately and the progressive discipline model is followed. Use of walkie talkies by staff outside to deal with incidents in a timely manner
- Feeling Explorer program with George Hull for select Primary classes
- Mental Health Kit to start the school year and to be used throughout the year
- ensuring students are aware of school expectations around safety in the school, the yard, and on the bus - at assemblies, over the daily announcements, etc.
- support of CSPC through parent engagement initiatives and community building activities with the school

Responsibility

- Students
- Staff
- Parents
- Administration
- CSPC

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

- E.A.support
- Guidance
- Safe Schools Department
- Police/School Board Protocol
- School weekly bulletins to the community via School Messenger.
- Father Serra Code of Conduct
- Progressive discipline protocol
- TCDSB staff members can access safe school resources and share curriculum units through the TCDSB Share Point site, accessible through the TCDSB secure access login.
- TCDSB Safe Schools Bullying Awareness and Prevention Toolkit

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

- Students will be able to define what constitutes bullying behaviour in its various forms and will be able to clearly articulate the consequences within the progressive discipline model.

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	To create the conditions where all students thrive in a safe and healthy learning community rooted in the love of Christ. The development of self-discipline is a positive goal to work towards as students learn to live the Gospel values. We will focus on reinforcing positive behaviours and making choices that make us feel good.
Goal #1	To create a whole school approach where all students foster appropriate behaviour with early and ongoing interventions, and where the approach to problem-solving is equitable and inclusive, involving disciplinary measures that are both restorative and educative.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Safe Schools Climate Survey
- School Assemblies
- Safe Schools Team Meetings
- Student Council Initiatives
- Safety Announcements over the PA
- Participation in bullying awareness week
- Participation in equity, inclusivity, anti-racist, and anti-bullying assemblies
- Monthly Virtue of the Month celebrations
- Monthly Mass celebrations
- Classroom buddy system implementation
- Guidance Counselor Presentations

Responsibility

- Students
- Staff
- Parents
- Administration
- Safe School Team

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

- Safe Schools
- School progressive discipline plan
- TCDSB protocol
- On-line incident reports
- Threat Assessment Training
- TCDSB Progressive Discipline resources
- Bill 212 - Progressive Discipline and School Safety
- CSPC meetings
- Safe School Team

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

- Progressive Discipline Safe School Statistics will decrease and the students' knowledge of appropriate behaviour and consequences will increase.

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	Father Serra Catholic School, our vision is to build a strong Catholic community wherein trust is the foundation of our daily routines, where students are authentically engaged as emphatic co-learners and where students may feel supported, nurtured and safe in a Catholic faith-based learning environment.
Goal #1	Create and maintain an environment where all students feel they are contributing members of a caring and safe learning community and where students will recognize how a community of believers supports one another and is inclusive.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- ELP orientation program (Leap Into Learning)
- Curriculum Night
- Parents invited to attend Guest Speaker Parent nights
- CSPC regular meetings
- CSPC School events
- Parent communication via the agenda
- Weekly parent communication via email
- Monthly parent communication through School Calendar
- Safe Arrival Program
- Bullying Awareness and Prevention team
- Social Justice Initiatives
- Providing and encouraging professional development and learning for staff
- Partnership with Toronto Police Department on school safety

Responsibility

-Administration
-Staff
-Students
-parents
-support staff

Resources

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

- Prayer Tables
- Religion Program
- School communication to community
- School Parish
- Recognition of student Achievement
- Student Leader Initiatives/Student Ambassador work
- Charitable Works as a Community
- TCDSB resources
- Ministry resources: School Planning for Sustainable Practices in Mental Health and Well-Being
- Mental Health resources - School Mental Health Ontario, Student re-engagement kit

Measurement of Progress

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

- Empathy
- Tolerance
- Kindness
- Inclusion
- A more positive outcome and awareness to the safe schools/student voice survey conducted in May

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	Father Serra Catholic School, our vision is to build a strong Catholic community wherein trust is the foundation of our daily routines, where students are authentically engaged as emphatic co-learners and where students may feel supported, nurtured and safe in a Catholic faith-based learning environment.
Goal #2	To encourage and develop the growth of students into good Catholic citizens that are kind, and inclusive of one another.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

Student Leaders
Charity Collections (for Dress Down Days, Terry Fox Walk, etc.)
December Charity Drive

Responsibility

Administration
Teachers
CSPC

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

Human
TCDSB Leadership Workshop

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

Increased participation and demonstration of student initiative in school projects

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Goal #3	To promote learning and teaching opportunities focused on the monthly virtues and to celebrate the demonstration of virtues of the month while promoting and respecting diversity

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

Read aloud books based on monthly virtues
Prayer Selection for morning announcements selected by students and teachers based on monthly virtues
Speakers - Initiatives focussed on Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity

Responsibility

Administration
Teachers

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

TCDSB Website - Nurturing Our Catholic Community - Virtues of the Month

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

Staff and students feel school climate is respectful and accepting of all

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Goal #SVP 1	To promote learning and teaching opportunities focused on the monthly virtues and to celebrate the demonstration of virtues of the month while promoting and respecting diversity

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

Read aloud books based on monthly virtues
Student of the Month based on demonstration of virtues
Prayer Selection for morning announcements selected by students and teachers based on monthly virtues

Responsibility

- Students
- Staff
- Parents
- Administration

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

TCDSB Website - Nurturing Our Catholic Community - Virtues of the Month

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

A more positive outcome and awareness to the safe schools survey conducted in May

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	Father Serra Catholic School, our vision is to build a strong Catholic community wherein trust is the foundation of our daily routines, where students are authentically engaged as emphatic co-learners and where students may feel supported, nurtured and safe in a Catholic faith-based learning environment.
Goal #SVP 2	To promote learning and teaching opportunities focused on the monthly virtues and to celebrate the demonstration of virtues of the month while promoting and respecting diversity

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

School social justice initiatives

Responsibility

Administration
Staff
Students

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

TCDSB Nurturing Our Catholic Community

Safe Schools Department

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

Positive Outcome as reflected in Safe and Caring School Climate Survey Responses

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.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Emergency Response Plan - posters in every classroom and office in the school
- Emergency plans available for occasional teachers
- Performance of lockdown drills
- Clear communication of protocols to staff and students
- Lockdown pouch - set of keys for each class in pouch, etc.

Responsibility

- Staff
- Administration
- Caretakers
- Police Partners
- Local Fire Department
- Parents
- Students

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

- Emergency Response Procedures - posters in every classroom/office
- Father Serra Emergency Procedures Handbook (available to all staff members)
- Safe School Action Team
- Board resources

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

- Positive assessment of lockdown drills
- Emergency Response posters visible in each classroom/office in the school