

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	Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School
SUPERINTENDENT:	Flora Cifelli
SCHOOL ADDRESS:	444 Sherbourne St Toronto ON M4X 1K2
STUDENT ENROLMENT:	545

PRINCIPAL: Gahunia, Philip

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	**Gahunia, Philip**	**Teacher Rep**	**Martino, Prescilla**
Administrative Rep	**Miller, Mary**	**Support Staff Rep**	**Da Costa, Jennifer**

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**	**2026-09-25**
3	**2026-11-13**	**4**	**2027-06-11**

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	At Our Lady of Lourdes, students, parents, staff and community members will feel safe and respected in the school environment. This will ensure the emotional, social, physical, and academic well being of our community.
Goal #1	In the 2025–2026 EQAO Student Questionnaire on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, 45% of Grade 3 and 63% of Grade 6 students responded “Unsure” to the statement, “The words in my class make every student feel included.”By June 2027, we will increase positive responses to 75% through bullying prevention and intervention strategies, restorative practices, social-emotional learning, and equity and inclusion initiatives that promote respectful positive relationships, and a safe inclusive environment.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-Bullying Prevention and Intervention Week activities
-Restorative conversations and conflict resolution practices
-Explicit teaching of respectful relationships and inclusive language
-Promote TCDSB monthly virtues in the classroom and school wide (eg. monthly Virtues Assemblies and certificates handed out to students)
-Selected classes and students participating in specialty programs (eg. PALS Program, positive social skills activities lead by our SpedEd Teacher)
-Student leadership opportunities (currently active: School MHAT Club, P.A.L.S.)
-School wide daily mindfulness meditation (over school PA System after lunch recess)
-Immediate response to bullying situations with attention to Progressive Discipline and the Our Lady of Lourdes Code of Conduct (conduct and other important school information included in Student Agendas for students and parents to refer to).

Responsibility

School Social Worker
School Guidance Counsellor
School Child & Youth Worker (CYW)
Teachers
Safe Schools Team
Administration

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

Administration
Guest Speaker: Community-Based Speakers/Presenters (eg. Toronto Police)
Public Health Nurse: Angelina Dean
School Mental Health Ontario (SMHO) Online resources

Public Health Resources:
-Kids Have Stress Too!
-Social Skills Hands on Learning Program

-TCDSB Safe Schools Department webpage for school staff with a variety of resources that include links, videos, resources (eg. Listening with the Heart Series - How to Create a Safe, Inclusive Space Through Christian Meditation and Mindfulness; Building Empathy in the Classroom)
-School Board Departments are available as needed (eg. Equity Department Resource Teacher, Nurturing Our Catholic Community Religion Department)
Staff School Representative "Equity Champ"

-TCDSB anti-bullying information pamphlet
-Bullying Awareness Resources- Safe Schools
-PPM 144 Bullying Prevention and Intervention (The Ontario Ministry of Education).
-Bill 212 -Progressive Discipline and School Safety, Acceptable Use
-Classroom and TCDSB resources

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

-EQAO Student Questionnaire results
-Student voice survey data
-Tracking of bullying-related incidents and referrals
-Classroom and school-wide observations of respectful and inclusive interactions
-Participation in bullying prevention, equity, and social-emotional learning initiatives

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	At Our Lady of Lourdes, students, parents, staff and community members will feel safe and respected in the school environment. This will ensure the emotional, social, physical, and academic well being of our community.
Goal #2	In the 2025–2026 EQAO Student Questionnaire on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, 45% of Grade 3 and 63% of Grade 6 students responded “Unsure” to the statement, “The words in my class make every student feel included.”By June 2027, we will increase positive responses to 75% through bullying prevention and intervention strategies, restorative practices, social-emotional learning, and equity and inclusion initiatives that promote respectful positive relationships, and a safe inclusive environment.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

School-wide Initiatives:
• Analyze library collection and continue to incorporate culturally-relevant books and resources
• Create meaningful opportunities for students the chance to learn and practice social skills in both instructional and non-instructional times throughout the day (eg. daily meditation after lunch recess, PALS and Social Skills Programs in specific classrooms, small group instruction of positive social skills with school CYW; CYW outside at recess to provide additional support to students and help guide/model positive mediation between students when in disagreement)
• Accommodate individual learning needs and preferences
• Support autonomy by minimizing control, listening to and validating student perspectives

Classroom Initiatives:
• Offer students the chance to learn and practice social skills in a specific and targeted manner, particularly in the junior division
• Accommodate individual learning needs and preferences
• Support autonomy by minimizing control, listening to and validating student perspectives

Responsibility

Teachers
Safe Schools Team
Administration
School CYW

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

-Zones of Regulation and other healthy ways to talk about and release emotions
-Social Skills Programs
-TCDSB Safe Schools Department webpage for school staff with a variety of resources that include links, videos, resources (eg. Listening with the Heart Series - How to Create a Safe, Inclusive Space Through Christian Meditation and Mindfulness; Building Empathy in the Classroom)
-School Board Departments are available as needed (eg. Equity Department Resource Teacher, Nurturing Our Catholic Community Religion Department) Staff School Representative "Equity Champ"
-Toronto Public Health Nurse

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

Formal
-EQAO Student Questionnaire results
-Student voice survey data

Informal
-Daily check-ins by staff asking students how their day is, how they are feeling (eg. morning greet off the bus, in classroom, at recess and in the hallways)

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	At Our Lady of Lourdes, students, parents, staff and community members will feel safe and respected in the school environment. This will ensure the emotional, social, physical, and academic well being of our community.
Goal #3	In the 2025–2026 EQAO Student Questionnaire on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, 45% of Grade 3 and 63% of Grade 6 students responded “Unsure” to the statement, “The words in my class make every student feel included.”By June 2027, we will increase positive responses to 75% through bullying prevention and intervention strategies, restorative practices, social-emotional learning, and equity and inclusion initiatives that promote respectful positive relationships, and a safe inclusive environment.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-Encouragement of classroom conversations around the nature of bullying, with explicit references to definitions and scenarios, and our progressive discipline model
-Student led activities that highlight bystander responses to bullying, and includes references to the progressive discipline approach to bullying behaviours
-Participation in Bullying Awareness and Prevention Board initiatives
-School wide assemblies on bullying/cyberbullying including references to the progressive discipline approach to bullying behaviours
-Immediate response to bullying situations with attention to progressive discipline and Our Lady of Lourdes Progressive Discipline School Model.
-Progressive Discipline & Positive School Climate Poster Campaign (Theme: "Every Choice Matters. Every Student Belongs.") This campaign can run throughout the school year, with one poster introduced each month during announcements, assemblies, and virtue celebrations.

Responsibility

Teachers
Parent Community
Safe Schools Team
Administration

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

The following resources will be utilized to support these initiatives/strategies/practices:
- Community Liaison Officer presentations on bullying and cyber bullying, and discussion of legal impacts
- Classroom and TCDSB recourses
- TCDSB anti-bullying information, pamphlet provided by Safe Schools
- PPM 144 Bullying Presentation and Intervention (The Ontario Ministry of Education)
- BILL 212- Progressive Discipline and Safe School Safety
- Our Lady of Lourdes Progressive Discipline Model
- TCDSB Acceptable use Policy
- School Guidance Teacher
- School Social Worker
- School CYW
- TCDSB Safe Schools Department webpage for school staff with a variety of resources that include links, videos, resources (eg. Listening with the Heart Series - How to Create a Safe, Inclusive Space Through Christian Meditation and Mindfulness; Building Empathy in the Classroom)
- School Board Departments are available as needed (eg. Equity Department Resource Teacher, Nurturing Our Catholic Community Religion Department)
- Staff School Representative "Equity Champ"

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

The following metrics will be used to measure progress in achieving the Goal:
-Students will be able to list the 2-3 major consequences that can be imposed for bullying behaviour under a progressive discipline approach.

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	At Our Lady of Lourdes, students, staff, parents and community members will feel safe and respected in the school environment. This will ensure the emotional, social, physical, and academic well being of our community.
Goal #1	Staff and students of Our Lady of Lourdes will deepen their understanding and consistent implementation of Progressive Discipline through awareness initiatives, restorative practice training, leadership opportunities, student-focused teaching and ongoing access to TCDSB Safe Schools resources.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-Develop a one-page Progressive Discipline flowchart for all staff.
-Create a shared digital folder with TCDSB policies, templates, examples of restorative conversations, and documentation tools.
-Post the Progressive Discipline continuum in staff workspaces.
-Use administration-led coaching conversations when behavioural situations arise.
-Model restorative conversations with students and families.
-Debrief challenging incidents with staff to identify effective strategies and next steps.
-Celebrate examples of successful restorative and preventative interventions.
-Apply Progressive Discipline in a consistent manner (use of platform)
-Progressive Discipline & Positive School Climate Poster Campaign
-Model, teach, and/or reinforce self-calming and de-escalation skills: grounding, visualization, breathing (Wednesday Guided Meditation over the P.A)
-Classroom teachers to ensure that outdoor safety routines and procedures are reviewed regularly
-Discuss how families can reinforce problem-solving and respectful relationships at home
-Share examples of restorative practices used at school.

Responsibility

Teachers
Students
Administration
Safe Schools Team
Parents

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

-TCDSB Progressive Discipline resources
-Bill 212 -Progressive Discipline and School Safety,
-Ontario's Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy
-CSPC meetings
-Safe school Team
-School Board Departments are available as needed (eg. Equity Department Resource Teacher, Nurturing Our Catholic Community Religion Department)
-TCDSB Safe Schools Department webpage for school staff with a variety of resources that include links, videos, resources (eg. Listening with the Heart Series - How to Create a Safe, Inclusive Space Through Christian Meditation and Mindfulness; Building Empathy in the Classroom)

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

-Fewer repeat behavioural incidents
-Increased use of restorative conversations
-Reduction in office referrals
Improved school climate and student voice data
-Positive parent and student feedback regarding fairness and support

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	At Our Lady of Lourdes, students, staff, parents and community members will feel safe and respected in the school environment. This will ensure the emotional, social, physical, and academic well being of our community.
Goal #1	In the 2025–2026 Grade 6 EQAO Student Questionnaire on Sense of Belonging, 30% of students responded “I am not sure” to the statement, “I have at least one teacher or adult at school I can talk to if I have a problem,” by June 2027, Our Lady of Lourdes will reduce the percentage of students selecting “I am not sure” from 30% to 10% or less through intentional relationship-building, mentorship opportunities, student well-being initiatives, and family engagement strategies that strengthen...

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-Selected students will participate in a live theatre performance, Stronger Together: Opening Doors to Mental Health, presented by Suitcase Theatre.
-Promote of TCDSB virtues, in the classroom and school-wide (e.g., announcements, newsletter, classroom lessons)
-Engage in ongoing dialogue with staff on how our goals/initiative's align with MYSP and SIEP
-Cultivate Catholic action in support of the virtues - food drives, Christmas Outreach, classroom discussions around Catholic Social Justice - public-speaking contest
-Celebrate cultural diversity acknowledged by TCDSB(e.g., African Canadian Heritage, Indigenous Veterans Day, Autism Awareness etc.)
-Model, teach, and/or reinforce self-calming and de-escalation skills: grounding, visualization, breathing (Mindful, guided meditation, and contemplation) self talk, self-reflection/observation tools.
-Ensure that outdoor safety routines and procedures are reviewed regularly
-Implement student leadership opportunities to develop initiatives whereby the actions of the group and students contribute to the positive school culture (eg. MHAT, and PALS)

Responsibility

School CYW
Guidance Counsellor
Teaching and Support Staff
Safe Schools Team
Administration
School Social worker
Pastor/Priest
TPH Nurse

Resources

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

-TCDSB Resources
-Toronto Public Health Resources
-Equity Department Resources
-Ministry Resources
-TCDSB Safe Schools Department webpage for school staff with a variety of resources that include links, videos, resources (eg. Listening with the Heart Series - How to Create a Safe, Inclusive Space Through Christian Meditation and Mindfulness; Building Empathy in the Classroom)
-School Board Departments are available as needed (eg. Equity Department Resource Teacher, Nurturing Our Catholic Community Religion Department)

Measurement of Progress

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

-Student ability to identify at least one trusted adult in the school.
-Participation in mentorship, leadership, and well-being initiatives.
-Classroom and school-wide relationship-building activities.
-Comparison of baseline (2025–2026 EQAO) and subsequent student perception data.
-Mid-year and end-of-year student voice surveys.

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Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	At Our Lady of Lourdes, students, staff, parents and community members will feel safe and respected in the school environment. This will ensure the emotional, social, physical, and academic well being of our community.
Goal #2	...student connections' with caring adults in the school community.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-Selected students will participate in a live theatre performance, Stronger Together: Opening Doors to Mental Health, presented by Suitcase Theatre.
- The performance will provide students with practical strategies for understanding and supporting their mental health. (storytelling, music, and interactive learning)
- Students will explore emotions, build coping skills, and strengthen their understanding about how to reach out for support when needed.
- Performance: will teach the students about mental health support (e.g., caring adults in the school, Kids Help Phone and other supports).
-Cultivate Catholic action in support of the virtues - Food drives, Christmas Outreach, classroom discussions around Catholic Social Justice - public-speaking contest
-Celebrate cultural diversity acknowledged by TCDSB(e.g., African Canadian Heritage, Indigenous Veterans Day, Autism Awareness etc.)
-Progressive Discipline & Positive School Climate Poster Campaign (Theme: "Every Choice Matters. Every Student Belongs.") This campaign can run throughout the school year, with one poster introduced each month during announcements, assemblies, and virtue celebrations.

Responsibility

Teachers
Administration
CYW
Guidance Counsellor
school support staff (eg. EAs)

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

-Live theatre performance, Stronger Together: Opening Doors to Mental Health, presented by Suitcase Theatre.
-TCDSB Safe Schools Department webpage for school staff with a variety of resources that include links, videos, resources (eg. Listening with the Heart Series - How to Create a Safe, Inclusive Space Through Christian Meditation and Mindfulness; Building Empathy in the Classroom)
-School Board Departments are available as needed (eg. Equity Department Resource Teacher, Nurturing Our Catholic Community Religion Department)
Staff School Representative "Equity Champ"
--Progressive Discipline & Positive School Climate Poster Campaign

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

-Mid-year and end-of-year student voice surveys.
-Student ability to identify at least one trusted adult in the school.
-Participation in mentorship, leadership, and well-being initiatives.
-Classroom and school-wide relationship-building activities.
-Comparison of baseline (2025–2026 EQAO) and subsequent student perception data.

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	At Our Lady of Lourdes, students, staff, parents and community members will feel safe and respected in the school environment. This will ensure the emotional, social, physical, and academic well being of our community.
Goal #SVP 1	Create a Student Council to consult with safe schools team. Student Council will be the voice of the students in the school to improve the positive climate of our school.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

Student led initiatives

-Student Leadership Team - organizes spirit days, assemblies, and school improvement projects. (Eg. Grade 8 students selecting songs for School Dance and Supervising younger students
-Peer Mentors - older students support younger students academically and socially. (Eg. Reading Buddies)
-Playground Leaders - facilitate games and help resolve minor conflicts during recess.(Ex. PALS)

Responsibility

Guidance Counsellor
Teaching Staff
Safe Schools Team
Administration
School CYW
School Social Worker
TPH Nurse

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

Guidance Program
School Social Worker
Personnel on Staff
Classroom Teachers
Parish Priest
School CYW
School EAs
TCDSB resource staff
TPH Nurse

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

-Co-operative learning in the classroom
-Inclusion practices become routine
-Comparison of baseline (2025–2026 EQAO) and subsequent student perception data.

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

Conduct the OHSA Risk Assessment Survey
Implement controls and measures for concerns outlined in the survey
In-service of staff on procedures
Continue to remind staff and students of protocols
Communicate new protocols to parent and community members
Place Emergency Plans envelope in every class to be taken with teacher when evacuation occurs.

Responsibility

Administration and staff
Joint Health and Safety DWM

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

As required by OHSA Legislation

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

Effective response to all practices (eg. lockdown, fire drill)