

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 Perpetual Help School
SUPERINTENDENT:	Flora Cifelli
SCHOOL ADDRESS:	1 1/2 Garfield Ave Toronto ON M4T 1E6
STUDENT ENROLMENT:	336
PRINCIPAL:	Zaccak-DiFelice, Rania

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	**Zaccak-DiFelice, Rania**	**Teacher Rep**	**Sourial, Karen**
Teacher Rep	**Akelaitis, Chris**	**Parent Rep**	**Caroline Wang**
Teacher Rep	**Kenney, Kathleen**		

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	**2026-09-25**	**2**	**2026-10-29**
3	**2026-11-16**	**4**	**2026-11-26**

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

Students will have a clear understanding of the difference between conflict and bullying.

Goal #1

Each class will connect with community partners in supporting community needs as a class project. Work with adjacent Our Lady of Lourdes C.S.and with school from lower economic profiles- to help with items that they are in need of

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Highlight virtue of the month
- Individual classroom community outreach projects
- Direct instruction on similarities and differences between conflict and bullying
- Ensure the code of conduct is available, easy to understood and implemented by all members of our school community.
- Create student council to promote conflict resolution and positive social interactions.
- Use student communication officers to promote a positive school climate
- Use pro grant funds for presentation on equity and inclusivity for students and parents post pandemic restrictions

Responsibility

All staff, parents, guidance teacher, social worker, guidance teacher, students

Resources

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

- TCDSB Guideline: Keeping Our Students Safe (Reporting an Incident using the Safe Schools Reporting Form - Part 1 AND Progressive
- Guidance Counsellor and Social Worker to visit to classes and/or individual students
- TCDSB Policy S.S. 11: Bullying Prevention and Intervention
- Code of Conduct in all Student Agendas/class websites
- TCDSB Safe Schools Bullying Resources
- TCDSB Bullying Prevention and Intervention Brochures
- Catholic Graduate Expectations
- TPH Resources

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

- Fewer incidents reported to administration (i.e., number of students sent to office for bullying behaviour)
- Junior/Intermediate students (Grades 6/8) complete TCDSB Survey (Safe and Caring Catholic School Climate Survey)
- Staff observation/anecdotal evidence

School Vision	Students will have a clear understanding of the difference between conflict and bullying.
Goal #2	To create a bully free school environment, where students feel safe, welcomed and respected.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Promote safe ways for reporting
- Continue to remind all students and staff through assemblies that they are responsible for supporting bullying awareness, reporting and prevention
- Cyber bullying program through OPHEA discussed and implemented through health class
- bring in public speaker to discuss cyber bullying and the dangers of social media
- Safe Schools Climate survey
- Student Council Initiatives
- Police Safety Presentations Focus: Personal Safety, Internet/Social Media Safety, Cyber Bullying
- Monthly Virtue recognition assemblies
- P.A Announcements as reminders for safe and respectful play
- Reminders to self-advocate and stand-up to any inappropriate behavior
- Classroom ambassadors leading morning prayers on PA system
- Progressive Discipline application
- Student agendas, used as a communication tool
- Divisional assemblies reinforcing school code of conduct
- Establish mechanisms for safe and confidential reporting practices, by encouraging students to safely intervene and report bullying behaviours
- Reminders to self-advocate and stand-up to any inappropriate behavior
- Direct teaching in classrooms pertaining to strategies and skills to recognize and address bullying
- Inviting Bullying Awareness guest speakers
- Build awareness of the Catholic Graduate Expectations
- Maintain a close relationship with our local parish priest

Responsibility

Principal, teachers, support staff including EAs, guidance teacher, social worker

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

- TCDSB Guideline: Keeping Our Students Safe (Reporting an Incident using the Safe Schools Reporting Form - Part 1 AND Progressive Discipline Incident Report, June 2011)
- Guidance Counsellor and social worker visits to classes and/or individual students
- TCDSB Policy S.S. 11: Bullying Prevention and Intervention
- Code of Conduct in all Student Agendas
- TCDSB Safe Schools Bullying Resources
- TCDSB Bullying Prevention and Intervention

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

- Fewer incidents reported to administration (i.e., number of students sent to office for bullying behaviour, number of Progressive Discipline Reports dealing with Bullying)
- Junior/Intermediate students (Grades 6/8) complete TCDSB Survey (Safe and Caring Catholic School Climate Survey)
- Staff observation/anecdotal evidence

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	Students will have a clear understanding of the difference between conflict and bullying.
Goal #3	Emphasis on bullying/safety training and presentations that will take place at the school for both parents and students.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Character Education through Religion and Family Life Program and involvement of Scott, Youth Minister
- Grade/Divisional/School meetings/assemblies that focus on positive expectations of behavior- virtues of the month
- Foster empathy and good citizenship through announcements, assemblies, progressive discipline
- Social Worker and guidance counsellor class visits
- presentations by Toronto Police about cyber bullying
- TCDSB Surf-Right Policy and Acceptable Use Policy to be completed
- Various presentations appropriate to bullying and self advocacy
- Students and teachers aware of the reporting procedures for ant incidents that occur

Responsibility

Students, Administration, Church staff, and all staff members

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

- Progressive Discipline Safe Schools Statistics
- DIP - Student Surveys: Safe School/My School My Voice) https://webapp.tcdsb.org/DIP30
- TCDSB Policy S.S.11 Bullying Prevention & Awareness http://www.tcdsb.org/policyregister/SS11.htm
- TCDSB Safe Schools Bullying Resources http://sharepoint01/SafeSchools/Document%20Library/Forms/AllItems.aspx
- TCDSB Bullying Prevention and Intervention Brochure
- MOE (Ministry Resources)
- PPM 145: Bullying Prevention and Intervention

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

- Fewer incidents reported to staff(i.e., number of students sent to office for conflict/bullying behaviours, number of Progressive Discipline Incident reports)
- Office log dealing with conflict and unhealthy behaviors
- Junior/Intermediate students (Grades 6/8) complete TCDSB Survey (Safe and Caring Catholic School Climate Survey)
- Staff observation/anecdotal evidence

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 develop a safe school culture by establishing a partnership between school, home and church, incorporating the education of appropriate social behaviour founded on Gospel values.
Goal #1	To establish a variety of school wide engagement opportunities and initiatives.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Provide on-going communication with students, school staff, parents (e.g., OLPH - Code of Conduct, Curriculum Night, Town Hall, newsletters,parent letters)
- Direct teaching of social skills and consistent review of virtues and CGE
- Full implementation of student IEP recommendations
- Guidance intervention and social work intervention initiated in a timely manner
- Guidance councillor and social worker to work on friendship, antibullying strategies and conflict resolution strategies when needed
- Classroom community service projects
- Student Council to increase student voice and build school pride and inclusiveness

Responsibility

- All staff members, administration, parents, school community, and educational stakeholders

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

- TCDSB Safe Schools Action Team Guidelines
- TCDSB Guideline: Keeping Our Students Safe (Reporting an Incident using the Safe Schools Reporting Form - Part 1 AND Progressive
- Safe School Survey results (completed Spring 2018)
- Resources/strategies and interventions with which to address inappropriate behaviour and support the learning environment
- Use of behaviour contracts, think/reflection papers, and formative consequences
- Guidance counsellor and social worker visits to classes and/or individual students

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

- Fewer incidents reported to office administration
- Junior/Intermediate students (Grades 6-8) complete TCDSB Survey (Safe and Caring Catholic School Climate Survey)

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	A positive school culture is central to our vision of a safe and welcoming environment. We strive to make all members of our community feel safe and welcomed.
Goal #1	1) To continue to develop academic excellence and social understanding and acceptance of all students.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- To work with parents, teachers and the community to respond positively to all issues that arise at school
- High academic standards and commitment to learning
- Faith based assemblies
- Daily announcements/reminders
- Participate in Student Mental Health Week activities
- Teacher emphasis on manners and positive behaviour
- Community gatherings
- Faith based intervention
- Displays of student work
- School practices that serve to promote positive school climate and culture include student body council Team,and Learning Buddies

Responsibility

- All staff, students and community

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:
- Virtue of the Month Resources (www.tcdsb.org)
- Equity and Inclusive Models of Education
- The Success For All Document
- Catholic School Graduate Expectations
- SIEP Goals to include focus on equity and student wellness
- TCDSB Progressive Discipline
- parish Priest to present in classrooms

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

To monitor and ensure that academic excellence and socially responsibility is first and foremost in our community.
Safe School team will meet each term to discuss progress.

School Vision	A positive school culture is central to our vision of a safe and welcoming environment. We strive to make all members of our community feel safe and welcomed.
Goal #2	2) Increase engagement in the OLPH Catholic School Community with a focus on the third year of the TCDSB pastoral plan's God's Image: Growing in Knowledge, with Justice and Hope

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Monthly school masses prepared by student and teacher teams
- Individual class masses
- Monthly focus on virtues
- Provide a spiritually based program for students to understand and care for each other through TCDSB Religion and Fully Alive programs.
- School and CSPC community building events (e.g., Curriculum Night, Dash for Cash, Play Day, Carnaval, Spring Benefit, monthly mass, etc. school visits by Parish Priest)

Responsibility

- Principal, school staff, students, guidance counsellor, Safe Schools team, CSPC, Pastor

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:
- TCDSB Guideline: Keeping Our Students Safe (Reporting an Incident using the Safe Schools Reporting Form - Part 1 AND Progressive Discipline Incident Report, June 2011)
- Ministry Document: Caring and Safe Schools in Ontario
- Religion and Family Life web resource on Virtues and the Year of the Family
- Me to We School Team initiatives
- School/OLPH Church/Home partnership
- Guidance counsellor and social worker to visit to classes and/or individual students

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 demonstrating leadership
- Students requesting/suggesting leadership activities
- Student survey results
- Fewer incidents reported to administration

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	A positive school culture is central to our vision of a safe and welcoming environment. We strive to make all members of our community feel safe and welcomed.
Goal #SVP 1	1 - Establish strategies that promote healthy strategies for social understanding and mental wellness through Caring Catholic School Climate Survey carried out for students in grades 6 & 8 2) - Students to examine and develop strategies that promote self awareness of stress factors.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- To work with teachers and students to respond positively to issues that may arise in the school.
- Promote student engagement opportunities between various divisions - lunch monitors, safety patrollers, student council
  School practices that promote a positive school culture: assemblies, Eco-Team, Learning buddies.
- Students to read prayers, land acknowledgement, sing anthem

Responsibility

- Safe School team, staff, students, bus drivers and community

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

- Guidance Counsellor to support junior and intermediate classes in the areas of friendship and conflict resolution.
- Virtue of the Month
- Equity and Inclusive Models of Education
- Education/ Success for All Document
- SIEP Goals
- TCDSB Progressive Discipline Plan

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

Safe school team will meet and discuss student voice with the intermediate anti-bullying team on a regular basis to discuss progress

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

- Follow TCDSB Lockdown Drill practices and procedures.
- Develop positive strategies for understanding the need for lockdowns and practice of firedrills by JK - 8
- Develop a strategy for itinerant and specialist teachers in the event of a lockdown
- Educate students, staff and parents regarding situations that need emergency response.
- Safe Schools Threats to School Safety Poster displayed in all rooms of the school outlining what needs to be done.
- Anaphylaxis in-service for all staff (two/year)
- Autism Training, First Aid Training

Responsibility

It is the responsibility of all members of our staff and support staff to comply with lockdown proceedures.

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:

- TCDSB Lockdown Policy Procedures.
- TCDSB Safe Schools Action Team Guidelines
- TCDSB Guideline: Keeping Our Students Safe - Ensure review and practise of Fire Drills/Lockdown Drill procedures are reviewed and practised by each classroom teacher throughout the school year
- Police services school liaison officer.

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:
- Principal will assess each drill.
- Ongoing feedback from staff and students.
- Progress will be measured on a term by term basis and procedures reviewed as required.