

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	Pope Francis Catholic School	PRINCIPAL:	Bucci, Giuseppe
SUPERINTENDENT:	Flora Cifelli		
SCHOOL ADDRESS:	319 Ossington Ave Toronto ON M6J 3A6		
STUDENT ENROLMENT:	199		

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	**Bucci, Giuseppe**	**Parent Rep**	**Timothy Ledo**
Teacher Rep	**Anceriz, Margaret**	**Community Rep**	**Father Ricardo**

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	**2026-03-27**	**2**	**2026-10-29**
3	**2026-12-18**	**4**	**2027-05-28**

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

Staff, students and parents collaborate to maintain a positive and nurturing environment at Pope Francis School. We recognize that an inclusive and supportive environment must be provided for all students. It is a shared responsibility among school, home and community which provides the opportunity for all students to achieve their maximum potential and strive to be the best they can be. To this end we engage the support of all stakeholders.

Goal #1

Start of School Assembly - the Week of September 8th, 2026 - all school students spoken to about Bullying. Reminded/informed of how one can be bullied - language, exclusion, gossip, physical. Of particular note - exclusion discussed as Pope Francis is a smaller school and doing so is unfair in such a small school. After primary grades left assembly - Grades 5 through to 8 spoken to about a) Language used in school yard - wrong and inappropriate for younger ears to hear foul words.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

To increase student inclusion during recess periods via intramural and other activities (C-LEAP or PALS ==> co-operative games during lunch to foster pro-social behavior and inclusion)
Lead structured play groups
Encourage students to participate in extra curricular activities
Students assist in leading morning announcements
Box of Kindness initiative

Responsibility

Administration/Staff
Toronto Public Health
All staff are responsible to address bullying issues should they arise
Students
Parents

Resources

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

Guidance Counsellor/Social Worker/bullying awareness and Prevention documents 2006
Promoting a Positive School Climate: A Resource for Schools (Ministry document)
Born of the Spirit
Fully Alive Program
Toronto Public Health Nurse
Presentations- Colby Magic Show

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

A school culture is established where differences are accepted and inclusion is the demonstrated standard of acceptance
Bullying incidents are reduced; strategies for victims, bystanders are evident
Safe and Caring School Climate Survey Data
Reduction of progressive discipline reports associated with bullying.

School Vision	Staff, students and parents collaborate to maintain a positive and nurturing environment at Pope Francis School. We recognize that an inclusive and supportive environment must be provided for all students. It is a shared responsibility among school, home and community which provides the opportunity for all students to achieve their maximum potential and strive to be the best they can be. To this end we engage the support of all stakeholders.
Goal #2	Start of School Assembly - September 5, 2025 - all school students spoken to about Bullying. Reminded/informed of how one can be bullied - language, exclusion, gossip, physical. Of particular note - exclusion discussed as Pope Francis is a smaller school and doing so is unfair in such a small school. After primary grades left assembly - Grades 5 through to 8 spoken to about a) Language used in school yard - wrong and inappropriate for younger ears to hear foul words and b) Cyberbullying – how it

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

To increase student awareness of bullying behavior and its effects on peers through school assemblies.
To have yearly presentations on consequences and ill effects of bullying.
Presentations by Community Liaison Officers
P.A. Announcements - Box of Kindness
Growth mindset to increase motivation and self-esteem

Responsibility

Administration/Student Leaders
Police Liason
All staff
Parents
Students
Guidance
Social Work

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

Promoting a positive school climate resource.
Restorative Justice Outreach Package.
Assemblies focusing on co-constructed success criteria regarding monthly virtue and learning skill.
Bullying presentations led by Community Liaison Officer
Religion resources

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

Positive school climate
Bullying incidents reduced
Increased student engagement
Invite Community Liaison Officer to school

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	Staff, students and parents collaborate to maintain a positive and nurturing environment at Pope Francis School. We recognize that an inclusive and supportive environment must be provided for all students. It is a shared responsibility among school, home and community which provides the opportunity for all students to achieve their maximum potential and strive to be the best they can be. To this end we engage the support of all stakeholders.
Goal #3	To maintain the number of monthly student discipline issues and potential for student suspensions. To foster individual and collective acts of social justice service that actualize Gospel values.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

Use of literature/picture books to increase knowledge
Motivational speakers
P.A. Announcements
Power of One Presentation
Box of Kindness

Responsibility

All staff members
Administration
Parents
Students
Educational stakeholders

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

Toronto Public Health

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

Positive school climate
Bullying incidents reduces
Student comfort in reporting incidents
Increased student engagement
Increased student achievement

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

Staff, students and parents collaborate to maintain a positive and nurturing environment at Pope Francis School. We recognize that an inclusive and respectful environment must be provided for all students. It is a shared responsibility among school, home and community which provides the opportunity for all students to achieve their maximum potential and strive to be the best they can be. To this end we engage the support of all stakeholders.

Goal #1

To establish a variety of school wide prevention measures and initiatives.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

To provide clear communication of the school code of conduct to all community stakeholders via Student agenda/website.
To ensure full implementation of Student IEP recommendations
Providing leadership roles
Increase staff awareness of behaviours that could be a result of students' identification
Reflection papers
Communication log with parents (agenda/phone calls)
Provide guidance and social work support as needed
Student expectations are posted in the classroom and reviewed regularly

Responsibility

Administration
Teachers/Spec Ed Teachers/APT
Parents
School Community
Educational Stakeholders

Resources

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

Safe Schools Dept
Guidance counsellor
Social Worker
SBSLT
Bullying protocol
Monthly Virtue Assemblies
Community Liaison Officer

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

positive school climate
reduction in suspensions

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

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Goal #1

To foster individual and collective acts of social justice service that actualize Gospel values.

To recognize and highlight good deeds and positive learnings skills shown by students, in an effort to increase the level of respect students demonstrate towards those around them on a daily basis, including promoting a Growth Mindset with staff and students.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

School Community/Social Worker/Student leaders
Administration/School Community
Teachers/parents/Administration/Support staff
Students as leaders
Box of Kindness

Responsibility

Administration/Staff
Toronto Public Health
All staff are responsible to address bullying issues should they arise
Students
Parents

Resources

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

Guidance Counsellor/Social Worker/bullying awareness and Prevention documents
Promoting a Positive School Climate: A Resource for Schools (Ministry document)
Born of the Spirit
NEW Fully Alive Program 2024
Toronto Public Health Nurse
Presentations

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

Student survey results; re: school Climate
Students continue to volunteer their assistance
Reduced incidents of discipline
Improvement in attendance

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

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Goal #SVP 1	To provide students with the support, guidance and opportunities to have their voices heard.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

Student led monthly assemblies focusing on the monthly virtues and learning skills.

Responsibility

Principal
Classroom Teachers
Secretary

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

Certificates of recognition

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

Reduced observation of bullying.
Improved grades on report cards.

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

To conduct minimum 2 Lockdown drills per school term.
6 fire drills/year
Continue use of buzzer system
Sign in policy for guests
Emergency response procedures posted in every classroom
Walkie talkies for staff when on duty
Swipe Card access for staff (front and rear doors)
Safety package with emergency routines for supply teachers.
K-3 - teachers specifically outline who can pick up students
Classroom doors are always kept in lock mode
Younger students to travel in pairs at all times
Community Liaison Officer to witness at least 1 lockdown
Toronto Fire Department to witness 1 fire drill

Responsibility

Administration
Teachers
Custodian
Secretary
Educational Assistants
Parents
Students
Community Liaison Officer

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

Staff/board documents
Safe School Department
Template clearly outlining who picks up K-3 students
TCDSB Threats to School Safety Response Procedures
Community Liaison Officer

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

Positive assessment of lockdown and fire drills
Community Liaison Officer to witness at least 1 lockdown - use of feedback
Fire Department to witness 1 fire drill - use of feedback