

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	St. Elizabeth Catholic School	PRINCIPAL:	Varney, Daniela
SUPERINTENDENT:	Robert D'Addario		
SCHOOL ADDRESS:	5 Redcar Ave Toronto ON M9B 1J8		
STUDENT ENROLMENT:	188		

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	**Varney, Daniela**	**Student Rep**	**Fofie Adjei, Mary**
Support Staff Rep	**Schiralli, Tamra**	**Student Rep**	**Riley-Blackman, Zaynah**
Parent Rep	**Richelle Komes**	**Community Rep**	**Tina Di Cerbo**

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	**2026-09-17**	**2**	**2026-11-05**
3	**2027-02-25**	**4**	**2027-04-08**

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	St. Elizabeth is dedicated in promoting a safe and inclusive school community where everyone is respected and feels a sense of true belonging under the umbrella of the TCDSB Monthly Virtues and Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations. As a school community, we will continue to focus on student well-being (i.e., Student Mental Health, Equity and Inclusion) to continue our work on anti-bullying. We will promote continual dialogue regarding how to advocate for oneself and how to be respectful to oth
Goal #1	By June 2027, St. Elizabeth will improve overall school climate and reduce bullying incidents by implementing a multi-tiered, faith-based bullying prevention strategy—combining TCDSB Virtues/Pastoral Plan announcements, peer-led mentorship (e.g., Student Leadership), and Restorative Progressive Discipline—resulting in a decrease in reported bullying incidents and an increase in student-reported feelings of safety and belonging on the year-end School Climate Survey compared to last year.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- TCDSB Virtues of the Month and Ontario Catholic School Graduation Expectation (OCSGE) monthly assemblies.
- Promote the monthly virtues through morning announcements, integration throughout all subject areas and Catholic Student Leadership
- Promote the TCDSB Pastoral Plan with weekly announcements from our Student Leaders
- Implementing peer-led programs, where older students mentor younger students on bullying prevention, inclusivity, and conflict resolution. This promotes a culture of respect and belonging while empowering students to take an active role in fostering a positive school climate.
- Community Building Activities – School Masses, Spirit/Sport Assemblies, CSPC events
- TCDSB staff and other community agencies to conduct presentations to students on the topics on: Conflict Resolution and Building Healthy Relationships: i.e. Bucket Fillers (ELP/Primary), Peace by Peace (Junior), Agents of Leadership (Intermediate).
- Teaching and building students awareness on the different types of bullying as well as addressing Online Safety and Cyber Bullying and what it means to be a good Digital Citizen
- School Guidance Counsellor and Social Worker to continue to support individual students and classes on Self-Regulation and strengthening Social Skills
- Use of Restorative approach to behaviours and issues through Progressive Discipline
- Emphasising "The Third Path" conditions that focus on a relationship-based approach
- Incorporating resources and strategies shared by the Nurturing our Catholic Community Team
- Consistent communicate with parents of the Safe School Plan through weekly updates, monthly newsletters and ongoing throughout the year at CSPC meetings

Responsibility

-Principal
-Teachers/DECEs
-CSPC
-Parents/Guardians
-Support staff
-Students
-Student teacher (when applicable)
-Safe School Advisory Team
-Office Staff
-Special Services (SBSLT team)
-Parish Priest

Resources

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

-Progressive Discipline Protocol PPM 145
-Ministry of Education and TCDSB Equity Action Plan
-Resources from the Safe Schools Department
-TCDSB Safe and Caring Schools Climate Survey
-TCDSB Pastoral Plan (2025-2027)
-School wide implementation of the Ontario Catholic Graduate School Expectations
-Case Conferences, SBST/SBSLT/Social Worker's recommendations
-Guidance counsellor's expertise and resource materials
-Toronto Public Health (i.e., School Nurse)
-Ongoing consultations with and involvement of Catholic School Parent Council(CSPC)

Measurement of Progress

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

-Progressive Discipline Incident reports
-Community Engagement
-Feedback forms
-Number of participants in leadership opportunities
-Safe and Caring School Survey Results

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

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Goal #2	By June 2027, the school will increase parent/guardian engagement in anti-bullying and positive school climate initiatives by delivering regular anti-bullying resources and updates via newsletters, hosting at least one parent education session and introducing regular student check-in reflections (e.g., journals/surveys) to strengthen home-school communication.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Provide opportunities to Parents/Guardians to learn about bullying prevention policies and practices.
- Ensure bullying awareness and prevention resources are available for Parents/Guardians.
- Use a variety of means such as the school newsletter/weekly updates to educate Parents/Guardians about school anti-bullying programs.
- Provide opportunities to Parents/Guardians to learn how to get engaged in their child's education.
- Parents/Guardians model how to treat others with kindness and respect (develop empathy skills).
- Promote and provide community building opportunities for Parents/Guardians.
- Regular check-ins with Parents/Guardians, including student check-in opportunities throughout the week through: I.e., journals, weekly classroom surveys that give students an opportunity to share what is going on and how they are feeling.
- Hallway and stairwell Art focusing on kindness and empathy.
- Support from our Guidance Resource Teacher and Social Worker.

Responsibility

- Principal
- Teachers/DECEs
- CSPC
- Parents/Guardians
- Support Staff
- Students
- Teacher Candidates (when applicable)
- Safe School Advisory Team
- Office Staff
- Special Services (SBSLT Team)
- Parish Priest and Youth Ministry

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

- Weekly/Monthly communication between parents/guardians and students on relationship-based ideas from our work using the "The Third Path" (2025-2026 focus on IDENTITY- Term 1 and POSITIVITY- Term 2) to aid in anti-bullying messaging
- Highlighting resources for students to improve confidence when dealing with bullying issues (i.e. School Library Technician, Teachers, Support Staff, Administration).
- Programs, guest presenters, students artifacts are from a diverse perspective creating a sense of belonging and inclusiveness among our diverse student population.
- School student leadership opportunities involve programs and activities that reflects a global perspective.

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

- Increased number of Parents/Guardians in school activities (i.e. CSPC, Pizza Days, Monthly Virtue Assemblies).
- Feedback from CSPC on what they are hearing from community (i.e., what to continue, stop, start).

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	St. Elizabeth is dedicated in promoting a safe and inclusive school community where everyone is respected and feels a sense of true belonging under the umbrella of the TCDSB Monthly Virtues and Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations. As a school community, we will continue to focus on student well-being (i.e., Student Mental Health, Equity and Inclusion) to continue our work on anti-bullying. We will promote continual dialogue regarding how to advocate for oneself and how to be respectful to oth
Goal #3	By June 2027, St. Elizabeth will promote digital well-being and responsible online behaviour across all classrooms by establishing student-designed digital citizenship guidelines, ensuring all families review the TCDSB Acceptable Use Policy (AUP), and delivering teacher/staff-led balance strategies—supported by the Mental Health Action Team, Guidance, and Social Work—resulting in a decrease in technology-related classroom distractions/incidents and an increase in student awareness of healthy scr

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Have teachers discuss with students in classrooms “how to be a good digital citizen” and design guidelines on best practices.
- Communicate with students and Parents/Guardians about balancing screen time at home with school activities.
- Staff to assist students by: limiting long periods of screentime for classroom work, discouraging the use of personal devices in the classroom, work on building positive relationships within the classroom and school with engaging activities to promote being a good citizen, etc.
- Ensure Parents/Guardians and students familiarize themselves with the TCDSB Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for technology.
- Promote Student leadership.
- Promote the benefits of good Mental Health practices with support from the Mental Health Action Team.
- Guidance and Social Work Support.
- Promoting TCDSB Pastoral Plan, TCDSB Monthly Virtues and Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations in connection with having a positive online presence.

Responsibility

- Principal
- Teachers/DECEs
- CSPC
- Parents/Guardians
- Support staff
- Students
- Student Teacher (when applicable)
- Safe School Advisory Team
- Office Staff
- Special Services (SBSLT team)
- Parish Priest and Youth Ministry

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

- SBST/SBSLT/Guidance and Social Worker's recommendations.
- Ongoing consultations with and involvement of Catholic School Parent Council(CSPC).
- Ongoing conversations with the TCDSB Mental Health Action Team.
- Ongoing work with the Parish Church and Youth Ministry.
- Monthly board resources.
- Ongoing communication to Parents through weekly communications, monthly school newsletters and CSPC meetings.
- Bring in a speaker to inform students about the necessity of being a good Digital Citizens (what that looks like, etc.)

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

- Students are aware of their digital footprint and can speak to it.
- Better content curation by students (knowing what to post online - and what not to post).
- Students have a better understanding of online safety.
- Reduced number of cyberbullying concerns.

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	St. Elizabeth school will continue to develop a whole school approach of restorative justice through a Progressive Discipline (PD) model whereby the learning community is well versed with the PD plan, the continuum of consequences and interventions and support for inappropriate behaviours.
Goal #1	To promote St. Elizabeth's Code of Conduct and a Progressive Discipline Model specific to our school community.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- To continue the discussion around restorative practices and incorporating them whenever applicable.
- To implement our Progressive Discipline procedures with diligence when appropriate.
- To review Progressive Discipline strategies and procedures regularly with staff.
- To use TCDSB Progressive Discipline tools.
- To continue to maintain open communication between home and school.
- Promote positive behaviours through PA announcements, student assemblies, community emails.
- Discuss expectations with students so they understand what it means to be a respectful student.
- Infuse the 'Know Better, Do Better' idea, reinforcing expectations.
- Document, record, discuss and communicate with Parents/Guardians regularly, where required.

Responsibility

- Principal
- Teachers/DECEs
- CSPC
- Parents/Guardians
- Support staff
- Students
- Student Teacher (when applicable)
- Safe School Advisory Team
- Administrative Staff
- Special Services (SBSLT team)
- Parish Priest and Youth Ministry

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

- TCDSB Progressive Discipline Board Protocol.
- Ministry of Education PPM 144.
- Toronto Public Services (Health, Police, Fire Departments).
- Outside Agencies, as required.
- Staff, Students, Administration, TCDSB Guidance Resource Teacher, Social Worker, personnel as required.
- Professional Reading shared with staff.
- Students and staff participation of TCDSB Safe Schools initiatives.

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

- Increased visibility of respectful behaviour on a daily basis.
- Decreased progressive discipline issues.
- Students model the behaviour promoted and reference/use sayings mentioned daily over the announcements: "Make Good Choices" "Know Better, Do Better" "Hands are for Helping not Hurting" and "Be Kind Always."
- Implementation of TCDSB and St. Elizabeth Safe School initiatives and the school code of conduct.

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	St. Elizabeth school will continue to develop a whole school approach of restorative justice through a Progressive Discipline (PD) model whereby the learning community is well versed with the PD plan, the continuum of consequences and interventions and support for inappropriate behaviours.
Goal #2	Making all students feel that they are in a caring place that is safe for learning by establishing a variety of school wide intervention measures and initiatives.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Make explicit what good choices look like through the use of the virtues of the month, the Pastoral Plan: In God's Image, and the Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations
- Review the steps in progressive discipline model with staff
- Ensure teachers are competent in classroom management strategies through PD
- Make progressive discipline pamphlet available to the school community
- Direct teaching of behavioural expectations in class
- Promote staff use of progressive discipline incident log to document incidents and interventions
- Utilize resources from the Equity and Indigenous Education Department
- Anti-bullying and positive messages on: announcements, assemblies, weekly communications, monthly newsletters

Responsibility

-Principal
-Teachers/DECEs
-CSPC
-Parents/Guardians
-Support staff
-Students
-Student teacher (when applicable)
-Safe School Advisory Team
-Office Staff
-Special Services (SBSLT team)
-Parish Priest

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

-TCDSB Progressive Discipline Board Protocol
-Ministry of Education PPM 144
-Toronto Public Services (Health, Police, Fire Departments)
-Outside Agencies
-Staff, Students, Administration, TCDSB Guidance Counsellor, Social Worker, personnel as required.
-St. Elizabeth School Code of Conduct
-Monthly Newsletters
-Professional Reading such as ???
-Use of Student Agendas as a tool to inform/educate students and parents on School and Board Safe School Policies, acceptable and unacceptable behaviors at school
-Use of Student Agendas to build consistent and high expectations at home and at school

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

-All students know and implements the school Code of conduct
-Increased visibility of respectful behaviour on a daily basis
-Decreased progressive discipline issues
-Students model the behaviour promoted
-Implementation of Safe School Binder

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	Our vision is for all to recognize St. Elizabeth School as a place where we strive for academic excellence and promote school involvement through our student leadership opportunities. Students understand that it is everyone's responsibility to promote kindness, respect for others, civility and inclusion of all members of the school community.
Goal #1	Work with stakeholders and different community agencies on implementing activities that will promote a positive, safe, caring and inclusive school environment.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Catholic Social Justice teachings
- Student voice
- Initiatives: Spirit Wear, monthly Virtue assemblies, Dress Down days
- Student Leadership Opportunities: Implementing peer-led programs, where older students mentor younger students on bullying prevention, inclusivity, and conflict resolution. This promotes a culture of respect and belonging while empowering students to take an active role in fostering a positive school climate.
- Creating a safe social-emotional well-being environment that celebrates diversity, self-expression and students' achievements.
- Greening Initiatives

– "Gotcha Being Kind" initiative shared over PA and newsletter led by students

- Student Leaders
- Student Leaders in partnership with CSPC for charitable initiatives
- School lunchtime clubs (i.e., Chess, Art, Lego and Scrabble)
- Sports teams (i.e., Volleyball, Soccer, Cross country, etc.)

Responsibility

- Principal
- Teachers/DECE
- CSPC
- Parents/Guardians
- Support staff
- Students
- Student Teacher (when applicable)
- Safe School Advisory Team
- Office Staff
- Special Services (SBSLT team)
- Parish Priest and Youth Ministry

Resources

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

- Public health nurse.
- Guidance Resource Teacher.
- Social Worker.
- Continue to foster a strong connection between the Parish, home and the school.
- Consultations with Mental Health Action Team and TCDSB Mental Health leaders.
- In collaboration with CSPC, allocate funds to address equity issues at the school.
- Ensure that all students see themselves reflected in resources available.
- Invest in more culturally responsive and relevant resources for staff.
- Leadership from school's Safe School Committee.

Measurement of Progress

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

- Increased visibility of respectful behaviour on a daily basis.
- Decreased progressive discipline issues.
- Students model the behaviour promoted.
- Increased interest and involvement of students in various clubs.

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	Our vision is for all to recognize St. Elizabeth School as a place where we strive for academic excellence and promote school involvement through our student leadership opportunities. Students understand that it is everyone's responsibility to promote kindness, respect for others, civility and inclusion of all members of the school community.
Goal #SVP 1	To provide opportunities for student-led initiatives promoting student leadership, TCDSB Monthly Virtues and Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

Presentations by Guidance Teacher on:
- Inclusivity vs Exclusivity
- Life and Social Skills;
- How to advocate for oneself
- How to speak out against bullies

Leadership opportunities for students via various clubs to provide students a voice as student leaders in our schools and role-models to other students.

Responsibility

- All staff
- School Guidance Resource Teacher

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

- Information from local health department
- TCDSB and School resources
- Videos, presentation and activities on Equity and Anti-Racism promoted by the school and TCDSB

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

-Student voice will be increased and this will be seen in relationships throughout the school (student to student, student to staff, etc.)

-Students will be comfortable in sharing their cultures, histories and traditions

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	Our vision is for all to recognize St. Elizabeth School as a place where we strive for academic excellence and promote school involvement through our student leadership opportunities. Students understand that it is everyone's responsibility to promote kindness, respect for others, civility and inclusion of all members of the school community.
Goal #SVP 2	-to positively impact student resiliency

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-running of "Friends for Life Program" through the Psychology Dept.

Responsibility

-Psych. Dep. staff
-teachers
-students

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

-information on Friends for Life program through Psychology staff

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

-student voice will be more evident through role-playing in "Friends for Life Program."
-hopefully life-skills learned in this program will transfer to everyday practice for students and this will be evident in interchange between students and students, students and staff etc.

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

-Address safety issues at staff meetings, weekly staff bulletins
-Staff has an electronic and hard copy of the "Threats to School Safety Response Poster"
-"Emergency and Crisis Response Plan" poster posted in all classrooms, offices, library, gym and throughout the school and is visible
-Safety drills:
1. Fire (6 times per year, 3 per term);
2. Lockdown (four times a year, 2 per term);
3. Bomb Threat (2 times a year, 1 per term).
- All teachers have an Emergency Folder which they can refer to and which must be left in classrooms for occasional teachers. These are readily available to any staff in the room.
-Safety folders contain pertinent safety information specific to our school as well as information re: Lockdown etc. They also contain a section which is personalized for each class (i.e., class list, prevalent medical conditions, vulnerable students, etc.).
-Information regarding students with health issues (such as epi-pens or Diabetes) is posted by the teacher's desk in each class that it applies to). It is also in the safety folder.

Responsibility

-Principal
-Teachers/DECEs
-CSPC
-Parents/Guardians
-Support staff
-Students
-Student teacher (when applicable)
-Safe School Advisory Team
-Office Staff
-Special Services (SBSLT team)
-Parish Priest
-All partners in safety-board delegates (Health and Safety), Fire Dept., Police.

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

- TCDSB Threats to school Safety Response Procedures
- Emergency procedure handbooks
- Emergency response binder in main school office
- Emergency Procedures posters in classrooms and rooms in the school.
- Safe schools information from TCDSB
- Safe Schools protocols that have been locally-developed.
- Prevalent Medical Conditions (i.e., Anaphylaxis information/kit, Sabrina's Law)

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

- Drills are recorded in appropriate logs along with commentary regarding possible deficits
- Staff receive feedback of lockdown drills (i.e.: over announcements, email, weekly bulletins)
- Emergency procedure posters are visible in every classroom and office.