

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. Joachim Catholic School
SUPERINTENDENT:	Ryan Peterson
SCHOOL ADDRESS:	3395 St Clair Ave E Toronto ON M1L 1W3
STUDENT ENROLMENT:	281

PRINCIPAL: Touassom Pene, Yannick

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	**Touassom Pene, Yannick**	**Parent Rep**	**Lori Campbell**
Teacher Rep	**Simms, Sharon**		

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	**2026-10-05**	**2**	**2026-11-30**
3	**2027-02-01**	**4**	**2027-04-19**

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	Providing students with a safe and respectful environment that supports academic achievement for all students and helps them reach their full potential. Schools that have bullying intervention and prevention strategies foster a positive learning and teaching environment. We know that bullying is a serious issue that has far-reaching consequences for individuals, their families, peers, and the entire school community; hence the need for intervention and prevention strategies.
Goal #1	In the 2026-2027 school year, students will: - be able to respect and follow our new school Code of Conduct. - be able to effectively articulate and execute strategies in response to our Code of Conduct. - openness over the years leads students to feel a greater sense of confidence that issues pertaining to bullying are being dealt with by staff and parents in an effective and timely manner. Mental health initiatives and positive team building will continue throughout the year.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- TCDSB Pastoral Plan - In God's Image - Year three: Growing in hope - continue building on our responsibilities as Catholics and be more involved in the local community's social justice issues and in our own school community
-School Code of Conduct initiative
- Student Leadership Team to conduct monthly Virtue Assemblies
- Student Leadership News Team to develop Affirmation Videos to be included in News of the Week
- Medals and certificates given to Virtue Winners
- Staff members are aware of effective supervision strategies inside the school and outside the school
- Effective and timely communication to parents
- Students understand more about Mental Health so they can be more tolerant, accepting and inclusive
- Listening to the student voice. Asking students for input
- Spirit Days
- Make a Difference Team
- School-wide nutrition program
- Indigenous Truth and Reconciliation

Responsibility

- Principal
- Safe School team
- School Staff
- Parents, CSPC
-Students

Resources

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

- Stop the Stigma program
- Guidance
- School Social Worker
- Materials/resources gathered from in-services and workshops
- TCDSB Bullying Awareness and Prevention brochure
- Programs run by Guidance Counselor and Social Worker
- Canadian Safe Schools network
- Toronto Police Liaison Officer
- Safe and Caring Schools in Ontario document
- Websites: www.canadiansafeschools.com
 www.bullying.org
 www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/teachers/safeschools.html
 www.youthline.ca
 www.kidshelpphone.ca

Measurement of Progress

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

- - Review at staff meeting to reassess the level of progress
- Ongoing feedback from staff/students and parents
-Students can identify bullying behaviors
- students demonstrate empathy towards each other
- students articulate effective strategies for dealing with bullying (tell an adult)
- increase in student confidence in discussing and reporting bullying behaviors indoors and outdoors
- increase in student confidence so that issues pertaining to bullying are dealt with by staff in their school community.
- Student Voice Survey

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

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Goal #2	-support student learning about bullying and empathy -support student learning about showing caring and kindness -support Grade 8 students in confidence and well-being before transitioning to high school -support junior students in their leadership around active living and well-being

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-Student led activities reflecting student voice
-support student learning about empathy through the classroom presentation of different lessons geared for specific age groups
-student led morning announcements
- online cyberbullying presentations with links for teachers to use in the classroom/Google classrooms
- internet safety presentation with links for teachers to use in classroom/Google classrooms
- Guidance support
- Social work support
- Direct teaching through Health Curriculum
- Safe Schools Dept.
- Monthly Newsletter
- Make a Difference team (announcements, posters, etc.)

Responsibility

- Teacher, Principal, Support Staff, Guidance Counselor, school Social Worker, parents, students
- Parents are encouraged to be active partners in the education of their children
- Communication between home and school is essential to ensure students' success
- Students are engaged in a variety of leadership activities to develop leadership skills and contribute to the school community in a positive way

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

- Guidance Counselor, School Social Worker, Psychology Department
-OPHEA
- School- and board-wide resources with regards to safe schools, progressive discipline, and anti-bullying and empathy workshops, literature, and videos
- Safe Schools Survey

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

- Students will feel empowered by an awareness of anti-bullying strategies and will make use of those strategies when needed
- Ongoing feedback from staff, students, and parents
- Staff, Student, and parent responses to anti bullying/empathy presentations
- Fewer incidents of cyberbullying and improper web etiquette brought to the attention of the school
- Student leadership positions are filled by a diverse group representative of the school population
- The school is inviting and respectful for students, parents, and community members
- The students see themselves as valued members of the school community and take pride in representing their school
- Evidence of students advocating on behalf of each other
- Student Voice Survey

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	Providing students with a safe and respectful environment that supports academic achievement for all students and helps them reach their full potential. Schools that have bullying intervention and prevention strategies foster a positive learning and teaching environment. We know that bullying is a serious issue that has far-reaching consequences for individuals, their families, peers, and the entire school community; hence the need for intervention and prevention strategies.
Goal #3	- To promote responsible and safe behavior in all parts of our school facilities (yard, classroom, hallways, washroom, etc.) - Continue with the Student Leadership Council initiative.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- On a monthly basis, we recognize, through monthly certificates, students who have demonstrated the Virtue of the Month - Supporting student achievement and well-being by addressing parent concerns
- Workplace harassment Policy
- School Mental Health Ontario
- Conflict resolution Model
- TCDSB Progressive Discipline Model
- Respectful Workplace/Staff Morale
- Community Building activities

Responsibility

- Principal, Teachers, Support staff, Parents, Students
- Parents are encouraged to be an active supervisor when their children are using the computer/phone/tablet
- Communication between home and school is essential to ensure students' success
- Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own actions around the use of the internet, including Instagram, Facebook, and other sites commonly used

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

- Certificates
- TCDSB personnel
- TCDSB Code of Conduct / St. Joachim Code of Conduct
- Bill 212 (progressive discipline model)
- Teachers to coordinate lists of participants and prepare the certificates
- OPHEA Health Curriculum
- Virtues of the month
- Morning prayers
- Safe Schools
- Primary Social Skills kit

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

-Increase student pride in their contributions to the St. Joachim Catholic School community
-Community feedback
-Safe School Survey
-Increased positive behavior
-Increased engagement in school activities
-Decrease in the number of students being sent to the office
-Decrease in Progressive Discipline Reporting Forms/Suspensions

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	Progressive Discipline is a whole-school approach that utilizes a continuum of interventions, supports, and resources to address inappropriate student behavior and to build upon strategies that promote positive student interactions. When inappropriate behavior occurs, apply disciplinary measures within a framework that shifts the focus from solely punitive to corrective and supportive.
Goal #1	To continue to promote and foster a safe, inclusive, and healthy learning environment and to increase student inclusion at all levels through a variety of events and initiatives.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Clear communication of the school's Code of Conduct through posting in agendas and reviewing it with students at the beginning of the school year and at other times in the year when required
- Actively promote and implement engaging and inclusive activities both inside and outside classrooms that maintain student involvement, acceptance, and well-being
- Reflection/think paper as part of resolution process as needed
- Restitution and peer mediation as possible means of resolving an issue
- Staff conferencing with student and parent to investigate solutions
- Implementation of IEP modifications and accommodations
- Implementation of Safety Plans to assist and support students with behavior challenges
- Provide Guidance and Social Work support for students in need (whenever possible)
- Restorative practices
- Record incidents on the Progressive Discipline Platform (Reporting Forms and Incident Logs)

Responsibility

- All Staff
- School Social Worker
- School Guidance Counselor
- Students
- Parents
- Entire school community

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

- Current disciplinary policy in the student agenda
- Safe Schools' TCDSB website
- Safe Schools staff as resources (as required) for consultation
- Availability of program materials for teaching conflict resolution, problem-solving, decision-making and bullying prevention in print and media resources

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

- Reduction in incidents requiring staff and/or administration intervention
- Reduction in school suspensions
- Reflection by staff on the effectiveness of the school Code of Conduct
- Students demonstrate appropriate behavior

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 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 included.
Goal #1	We will continue to promote a positive, Christian, and inclusive school culture by demonstrating our faith through actions.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Awards given during the school year to recognize student accomplishments - Promotion of Virtue of the Month - School Spirit Days/Week (e.g., Christmas Spirit Week)
- PA Birthday wishes
- Monthly Virtue Board
- Spirit Wear
- Orange Shirt Day
-School guidance counselor to connect with intermediate students
- All staff to be empathetic to all students, showing them respect, and building trust
- Continue to encourage empathy for others and leadership through fundraising for The Angel Foundation and for ShareLife
- Staff members to incorporate aspects of 'Hacking School Discipline' to promote restorative practice and reduce negative behaviors

Responsibility

- Safe Schools Committee
- Principal and Staff
- Parent Community

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

- Daily prayers/announcements
- School Masses/Fr. Dominic (OLF Shrine)
- Guidance Teacher/Social Worker
- Police community liaison
- Monthly virtues/awards
- Monthly newsletters to parents
- TCDSB Equity Action Plan

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

- Respectful students who get along well with each other
- Reflection by staff on the effectiveness of the school's Code of Conduct
- Fewer incidents requiring disciplinary consequences
- Fewer suspensions around the topic of meanness and negative comments

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	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 included.
Goal #SVP 1	To promote the Golden Rule so that students feel safe at St. Joachim and to provide a structured school day for the school community, both physically and mentally.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Have the school guidance counselor connect with intermediate students
- All staff to be empathetic to all students; continue to build trust
- Continue with monthly announcements and student awards for Virtues of the Month and for demonstrating empathy
- Continue to encourage empathy for others and leadership through fundraising for ShareLife and The Angel Foundation
- Model and promote gospel values and Catholic virtues.

Responsibility

- principal
- teachers
- parents
- guidance

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

-Toronto Public Health
-TCDSB Safe School Department
-TCDSB Mental Health and Well-Being
-School bullying resources provided by Safe Schools
-Safe Schools Network

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

- Students are participating in all areas of the school
-Students are being positive with each other
- Safe School Survey

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	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 included.
Goal #SVP 2	1. To create opportunities for each student to practice speaking in front of large group and become confident to make their voice heard.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Continue with monthly assemblies and student awards for Virtues of the Month and Empathy
- each class to organize and present monthly Empathy assembly
- Continue to encourage empathy for others and leadership through the Social justice groups

Responsibility

- principal
- teachers
- students
- parents
- guidance

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

- social work resources
- guidance
- monographs on student voice

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

- student voice is heard in the different areas of the school community

School Vision	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 included.
Goal **#SVP 3**	Students are included, when appropriate, in co-creating learning opportunities about empathy, bullying, cyber-bullying, and stress management.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- co-created success criteria for learning skills and academics
- inquiry-based model of teaching to engage students in learning
- SEL of math strands are now part of academic discussion with students

Responsibility

- teachers
- students
- principal

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

- curriculum documents
- monographs on co-creating success criteria and inquiry-based learning
- SEF

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

- anchor charts seen on criteria of learning skills and criteria for academic subject areas

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

- Staff and students will be instructed to complete 6 successful fire drills and 4 lockdown drills
- Educational Assistants assist Special Needs students to ensure their safety, e.g., Safety Plan for Special Needs students
- Supervision for staff, both regular and inclement weather duties; staff are aware of effective supervision strategies
- All visitors must ring a buzzer at the front doors
- All exterior doors are locked
-Review Prevalent Medical conditions with staff
- Emergency Response Procedures posters posted in every room and referred to by staff and students
- Anaphylaxis, concussion, and Asthma training for staff

Responsibility

- Administration
- Teachers
- Students
- Parents
- Custodian
- Fire Department

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

- Board health and safety guidelines; Safe Schools Department at TCDSB/ CEC
- Police community liaison; Toronto Police Department-Division 41
- Fire Department
- TCDSB-Threats to School Safety Response Procedures Manual
- Anaphylaxis Prevention and Management Plan

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

- All students and staff respond appropriately during emergency procedure drills based on the criteria in the TCDSB Threats to School Safety Response Procedures guidelines
- Immediate feedback to staff and students; announcements through PA immediately following drills; emails to staff (identify deficiencies)
- Positive assessment of Lockdown and Fire drills
- Ongoing feedback from staff and students