

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. Maria Goretti Catholic School	PRINCIPAL:	Ng, Kevin
SUPERINTENDENT:	Ryan Peterson		
SCHOOL ADDRESS:	21 Kenmark Blvd Toronto ON M1K 3N8		
STUDENT ENROLMENT:	719		

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	**Chalabi, Najwa**	**Support Staff Rep**	**Lagman, Anne Marie**
Administrative Rep	**Ng, Kevin**	**Parent Rep**	**Susan Stirling**
Teacher Rep	**Murphy, Danielle**		

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	**2026-04-08**	**2**	**2026-09-15**
3	**2026-11-18**	**4**	**2027-02-08**

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	To Create a safe, caring and inclusive school environment were acceptance, respect and responsibility are practiced and clearly present. TO SUPPORT AND PROMOTE EQUITY, DIVERSITY, ANTI-RACISM AND INDIGENOUS EDUCATION, WITHIN THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY
Goal #1	Educate staff and students on Restorative justice and restorative practices to reduce punitive punishment and create a more empathetic community

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- During Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week, announcements will be made on the PA system and classes will engage in age appropriate activities with their teachers.
- Grade-specific bullying awareness and prevention activities
- Encourage teachers and staff to regularly inform students that they have people at school who will listen and support them
- School newsletter, announcements, and assemblies
- Internet safety expectations and proper use of media

Responsibility

- Principal
- Vice Principal
- School Staff
- Parents
- Students
- Safe Schools Team
- Neighbourhood Resource Officers (TPS 41 Division)
- Parish Priest
- Safe Schools Department

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

- Guidance Councillor, Social Worker available via telephone for individual cases and to continue ongoing dialogue with administration
- TCDSB Policy S.S. 11: Bullying Prevention and Intervention
- TCDSB Safe Schools Bullying Resources
- TCDSB Pastoral Plan
- Guest speakers

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

- Fewer incidents of conflicts between students on the school yard during recess and inside the classrooms
- Less incidents of Bullying through Student voice
- Review of Progressive Discipline Reporting Forms on a regular basis

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	To Create a safe, caring and inclusive school environment were acceptance, respect and responsibility are practiced and clearly present. TO SUPPORT AND PROMOTE EQUITY, DIVERSITY, ANTI-RACISM AND INDIGENOUS EDUCATION, WITHIN THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY
Goal #2	Students will participate in teacher-led and school wide initiatives aimed at educating, promoting awareness and developing strategies for identifying and responding to various forms of bullying. This year, we will pilot the PALS (Playground Leaders) program to see if that reduces incidents with our primary students.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Increase student awareness of bullying behaviour and its effect on peers through targeted lessons at each division/grade.
- Encourage classroom meetings (including talk circles, meeting agenda, I Statements).
- Encourage positive leadership through elementary Ambassadors
- Investigate presentations that address student online issues and cyber bullying (CPIC Funds for Parent Presentation)
- PALS program development in partnership with Toronto Public Health.

Responsibility

- Principal
- Vice Principals
- School Staff
- Teachers
- Parents
- Students
- Safe Schools Team
- Student Ambassadors
- OPAL Lead Team

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

- Guidance Councillor, Social Worker available via telephone for individual cases and to continue ongoing dialogue with administration
- TCDSB Policy S.S. 11: Bullying Prevention and Intervention
- TCDSB Safe Schools Bullying Resources
- TCDSB Bullying Prevention and Intervention Brochures
- TCDSB Pastoral Plan

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

1. Continue to track progress being made to reduce bullying behaviour throughout the year by reviewing bullying incidents on an ongoing basis.
2. Collect and analyze data.
3. Track online incidents; look for patterns in the data.

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Safe Schools Plan

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Goal #3	In line with our School Improvement and Equity Plan, all classes will utilize the restorative approach of "Circling Up" in order to problem solve, unpack and discuss concerns related to overall bullying.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Encourage students to positively resolve conflicts between their peers by advocating for themselves, using their words and approaching a staff/teacher on duty to intervene with a problem or conflict.
- To report bullying incidents to the staff/teacher on duty.
- Utilize student leaders to help facilitate play in the primary yards during unstructured times
- Develop an individual contract for students experiencing difficulty with their responsibilities.
- Peer mediation/mentorship in the school yard
- Proper use of Progressive Discipline forms to document incidents

Responsibility

- Principal
- Vice Principals
- Teachers
- School Staff
- Parents
- Students

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

- Guidance Councillor, Social Worker visits to classes and/or individual students
- TCDSB Policy S.S. 11: Bullying Prevention and Intervention
- TCDSB Safe Schools Bullying Resources
- TCDSB Pastoral Plan
- School Psychologist and/or Social Worker

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

- Continue to track throughout the year and use the results from the "Safe School Survey" to gauge level of how safe students feel at school.
- Continue to track Progressive Discipline forms; look for any patterns in the data (ie. increased incidents at lunch, in particular yard, etc.)

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 encourage and provide students with a learning environment that promotes positive student behaviours and respectful interactions founded on Gospel Values, with a specific focus on achieving the Catholic Graduate Expectations

Goal #1

To increase awareness among staff, students and parents, regarding the TCDSB Safe School Policy and Bullying Prevention Strategy, by providing specific programming, supports and strategies to encourage positive social interactions and assist students in developing the ability to make good decisions. This will be linked to the Pastoral Plan.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Encourage positive proactive approaches to student discipline
- Provide support to staff in regards to using the TCDSB Progressive Discipline application
- Ensure students learn and understand the Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations
- Recognize students who exemplify the TCDSB Virtues and the Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations (ie. Virtue awards, Healthy Living Award for students)
- Encourage student success across the curriculum and provide leadership opportunities to develop a climate of inclusivity and student success.
- Incidents reported to administration online, followed up by administrator and sent home to inform parents
- Continue to promote relationship building between grades and divisions (ie. Reading Buddies, House League Sports, monitoring, etc.)

Responsibility

- Principal
- Vice Principal
- Teachers
- School Staff
- Local Priests and Board Religious Education Staff

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:
- Resources/strategies and interventions with which to address inappropriate behaviour and support the learning environment
- Staff PD inservices
- Use of behaviour contracts, Think/Reflection Papers, and formative consequences
- Guidance Councillor, Social Worker available via telephone for individual cases and to continue ongoing dialogue with administration
- Student helpers and monitors

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:
- Fewer incidents reported to Office Administration
- Junior/Intermediate students (Grades 6-8) student voice survey
- Staff continue to implement Progressive Discipline approach

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	To establish a safe, caring, positive and inclusive Catholic school environment for all students, staff members, parents and school community, in partnership with our Church and Parish Priest, to inspire student achievement, motivation and spiritual faith formation.
Goal #1	To increase student involvement in developing and maintaining a positive and safe learning environment by encouraging students to take on roles of responsibility and leadership in the school community, spirit/virtue announcements and communications, virtual mass, morning prayer, reflecting our Gospel Values.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Provide opportunities for students to be door monitors, classroom helpers
- Students, staff, parents and church community engaged in various social justice events/fundraising [e.g., Terry Fox Run, Food Drives, Family Support Initiatives, Santa Store etc.)
- Awards and recognition for non-traditional areas of student achievement (e.g., music, art, etc.)and Virtue of the Month awards
- Virtue announcements and communications
- Divisional meetings to focus on areas of strength and difficulty in demonstrating Gospel Values and Catholic Graduate Expectations
- Positive behaviour presentations by Ambassadors
- Recreational clubs such as Board games, music, etc.
- PALS program pilot
- Catholic Student Leadership

Responsibility

- Principal
- Vice-Principal
- Teachers
- School Staff
- Students
- Guidance Counsellor
- CSPC
- Priests
- Bus drivers, guests, outside support agencies

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:
- Staff PD in-services
- Catholic School Graduate Expectations
- Use of behaviour contracts, Think/Reflection Papers, and formative consequences
- Guidance Councillor, Social Worker available via telephone for individual cases and to continue ongoing dialogue with administration
- CSPC Members and Parish community

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) student voice
- Staff implementing Progressive Discipline approach
- More students actively involved in leadership initiatives

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	To establish a safe, caring, positive and inclusive Catholic school environment for all students, staff members, parents and school community, in partnership with our Church and Parish Priest, to inspire student achievement, motivation and spiritual faith formation.
Goal #2	Increase engagement in the St. Maria Goretti Catholic School Community and continue to extend focus on Family, Parish and School as measured by discipleship in action.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

SMART Goal #2:
- Monthly focus on Virtues with banners displayed in school foyer
- Students of the Month selected based on demonstration of Virtues
- Provide a spiritually based program for students to understand and care for each other through TCDSB Religion and Fully Alive programs.
- CSPC community building events (i.e., Virtual events)
- Strong partnership with the parish

Responsibility

- Principal
- Vice-Principals
- Teachers
- School Staff
- Students
- Guidance Counsellor
- Safe Schools Team
- CSPC
- Priest

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)
- Resources/strategies and interventions with which to address inappropriate behaviour and support the learning environment
- Staff PD inservices
- Use of behaviour contracts, Think/Reflection Papers, and formative consequences- - Attend Bullying Awareness/Prevention Symposium with Safe School Action Team and professional PD inservices
- Guidance Councillor, Social Worker available via telephone for individual cases and to continue ongoing dialogue with administration

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:

- ewer incidents reported to Office Administration
- All classes involved in mass preparations throughout the year
- Students living Gospel Values

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	To establish a safe, caring, positive and inclusive Catholic school environment for all students, staff members, parents and school community, in partnership with our Church and Parish Priest, to inspire student achievement, motivation and spiritual faith formation.
Goal #3	Build partnership with Into Kids Health and other community organizations

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

Continue partnership with Into Kids Health
Increase awareness of concussion dangers and protocol by:
  Sharing information regularly at staff meetings
  Staff attending PD sessions and sharing
  Bringing in experts (ex. Holland Bloorview)
  Sharing information at parent meetings

Responsibility

- Principal
- Vice Principals
- School Staff
- students
- parents
- Public Health

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

-Public Health
-City of Toronto
-Board staff and resources
-"Concussion and You: A Handbook for Parents and Kids", Holland Bloorview

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

- surveys
- review bullying incidents and monitor how the Kids Health Program is making a difference in improving the socialization skills of students due to the opportunity for students to be engaged in organized play and games
- monitor parent follow up with concussion incident forms

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Safe Schools Plan

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Goal #SVP 1	Build partnership with Into Kids Health

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

Continue to Build partnership with Into Kids Health

Responsibility

- Principal
- Vice Principals
- School Staff
- Students
- Parents
- Public Health

Resources

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

- Toronto Public Health
- City of Toronto

Measurement of Progress

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

- Surveys
- Student involvement

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

- Safe Schools Threats to School Safety Poster displayed in all rooms of the school.
- Principal/ Vice Principals to review safe school protocol related to Fire drills and lock downs with staff
- Teachers to review safe school protocol with students
- Teachers to review "Emergency Response Procedures" poster with students
- Teachers to review safe bus-ride home procedures with students
- Have regular fire drills and lock down practices to be prepared
- Improve on last years successful unstructured lockdown Ex Use kindergarten doors for an easier flow of students
- Bomb Threat Practices

Responsibility

- Principal
- Vice-Principals
- Custodian
- School Staff (Teachers, EAs, DECEs, Office Administrators)

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:
- Staff Professional Development
- Fire and Lockdown Binder and Protocol

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

- Response time
- Knowledge of responsibilty
- Knowledge of procedure