

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. Michael's Choir (Jr) School	PRINCIPAL:	Clough, Martin
SUPERINTENDENT:	Flora Cifelli		
SCHOOL ADDRESS:	67 Bond St Toronto ON M5B 1X5		
STUDENT ENROLMENT:	152		

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	**Clough, Martin**	**Parent Rep**	**Roisin McGilly**
Teacher Rep	**Deneault, George**	**Student Rep**	**McGilly, Declan**
Teacher Rep	**McKie, James**	**Community Rep**	**Puzio, Beata**
Support Staff Rep	**Katrina Griffiths**		

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	**2026-09-24**	**2**	**2026-11-13**
3	**2026-11-27**	**4**	**2027-03-04**

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 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 students, their families, and the entire school community.
Goal #1	To develop bullying prevention and awareness strategies for students/staff, with an increased focus on the impacts of bullying and positive intervention strategies.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-Child and Youth Worker to lead "Words Matter" initiative/campaign, delivering presentations to students in Grades 3-12 and sharing resources with staff. This initiative helps students to better understand the impact of harmful language in schools and provides scenario-based education to encourage students to speak up. This initiative aims to promote a safe and inclusive school environment by eliminating the use of discriminatory language.

-Elementary and Secondary prefects will deliver presentations to their peers during monthly assemblies. Presentations will focus on the Cardinal Virtues, encouraging students to develop their understanding of the virtues and animate these virtues in their interactions with peers.

-Students to participate in TCDSB Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week during the third week of November (Nov. 16-20, 2026). Education campaign to take place within the school, including daily announcements and activities at lunch to promote bullying awareness, intervention, and prevention.

-Students and staff to participate in Pink Shirt Day (February 26, 2027) to take a stand against bullying and express solidarity with those who have experienced the effects of bullying.

Responsibility

-Administration
-CYW
-Elementary/Secondary Student Prefects
-Students

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

-Safe Schools Department presentation resources, including: bullying awareness and prevention, the impact of bullying, Harmony - Words Matter Campaign Resources, internet safety and cyberbullying, strategies for supporting friends involved in bullying behaviour, and building empathy in the classroom.
-Catholic School Graduate Expectations
-TCDSB Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week initiatives/communication
-School Mental Health Ontario resources
-TCDSB Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy and Bill 13, Accepting Schools Act, 2012
-Safe School Student Symposium
-PPM 144
-TCDSB Bullying Awareness and Prevention Toolkit Handbook
-TCDSB Code of Conduct/St. Michael's Choir School Code of Conduct

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

-Student participation in Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week activities
-Results from School Climate Survey
-Reduction in number of bullying incidents taking place at school

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	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 students, their families, and the entire school community.
Goal #2	Provide St. Michael's Choir School students/staff with strategies to support bullying intervention, conflict management, and mental health and well-being.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-Integrate classroom-based social-emotional learning (SEL) activities across grade levels to support student mental health and wellness with a focus on developing students' resilience, empathy, and social regulation.

-The Mental Health literacy module will be included in the Grade 10 Careers course.

-Teachers will be encouraged to use a variety of School Mental Health Ontario resources in classroom activities following demonstrations and sharing of best practices at staff meetings/PLCs.

-Students to participate in TCDSB Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week during the third week of November (Nov. 16-20, 2026). Education campaign to take place within the school, including daily announcements and activities at lunch to promote bullying awareness, intervention, and prevention.

-Administration to share information with students at opening year assemblies regarding anonymous alerts app to report incidents of bullying anonymously.

-Enforcing the TCDSB and local Code of Conduct.

-Use of formal (RCMC) and informal mediations to resolve student conflicts and model healthy conflict management.

-Use of a progressive discipline approach to address student conduct.

Responsibility

-Administration
-Teachers
-CYW
-Students

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

-Safe Schools Department presentation resources, including: bullying awareness and prevention, the impact of bullying, Harmony - Words Matter Campaign Resources, internet safety and cyberbullying, strategies for supporting friends involved in bullying behaviour, and building empathy in the classroom.
-Anonymous Alerts App
-Catholic School Graduate Expectations
-TCDSB Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week initiatives/communication
-Grade 10 Mental Health Literacy module
-School Mental Health Ontario resources
-TCDSB Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy and Bill 13, Accepting Schools Act, 2012
-Safe School Student Symposium
-PPM 144
-TCDSB Bullying Awareness and Prevention Toolkit Handbook
-TCDSB Code of Conduct/St. Michael's Choir School Code of Conduct

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

-Student participation in Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week activities
-Results from School Climate Survey
-Reduction in number of bullying incidents taking place at school
-Use of Anonymous Alerts app

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	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 students, their families, and the entire school community.
Goal #3	Build an inclusive school community and foster student empathy by exploring the topic of accessibility awareness. Students will better understand, celebrate, and champion accessibility for everyone.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-School to host an accessibility awareness presentation by the Rick Hansen Foundation/Easter Seals. Both organizations send ambassadors directly into schools to speak with students about accessibility, inclusion, and topics connected to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). These sessions help build understanding and empathy, and they give students the chance to hear real stories and ask questions in an engaging setting.

Responsibility

-Administration
-Staff
-Students
-Ambassadors from Rick Hansen Foundation/Easter Seals
-Safe and Accepting Schools Team

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

-Catholic School Graduate Expectations
-Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act
-School Mental Health Ontario resources
-TCDSB Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy and Bill 13, Accepting Schools Act, 2012
-Safe School Student Symposium
-PPM 144
-TCDSB Bullying Awareness and Prevention Toolkit Handbook
-TCDSB Code of Conduct/St. Michael's Choir School Code of Conduct

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

-Results from the 2026-2027 School Climate Survey
-Teachers to engage students in post-presentation discussion and assess learning.

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 and maintain an inclusive environment at St. Michael's Choir School that encourages the formation of 'men for others' through the service of sacred music and the pursuit of knowledge.
Goal #1	Develop staff awareness of early intervention strategies, progressive discipline interventions and supports, and restorative practices; increase their use to promote the adoption of pro-social behaviors on the part of students.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-Provide staff with an overview of the progressive discipline tool and model how to use it.

-Provide staff with an overview of the Progressive Discipline Form Part 1 submission process via Cority.

-Share Guidance/CYW referral form with staff to promote early intervention for students in risk.

-Provide professional learning to staff on 'Hacking School Discipline' and engage in a sharing of best practices.

-Encourage staff to register and attend Professional Development sessions offered through Safe Schools Department.

-Continue to facilitate opportunities for students to engage in the service of sacred music through weekly masses, benefit choir, and concert performances.

Responsibility

-Administration
-CYW
-Teachers
-Students

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

-Progressive Discipline Companion (Intranet) - Incident Reporting Form (step-by-step instructions)
-TCDSB Policy on Progressive Discipline
-TCDSB Progressive Discipline Brochure
-PPM145: Progressive Discipline and Promoting Positive Student Behaviour
-Bill 157: Keeping our Kids Safe at School
-Bill 212: Progressive Discipline and School Safety

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

-Use of Guidance/CYW referral form
-Use of the Progressive Discipline/Safe Schools platform
-Participation and feedback from staff PD

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 create a positive school climate, conducive to the development of responsible young men.
Goal #1	Reinforce the positive school climate by engaging students in opportunities for enhanced faith formation.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-Rector/Associate Pastor from St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica to visit classes on a weekly basis to engage students in discussion to promote Catholic faith formation.

-Elementary and Secondary prefects will deliver presentations to their peers during monthly assemblies. Presentations will focus on the Cardinal Virtues, encouraging students to develop their understanding of the virtues and animate these virtues in their interactions with peers. Recognize students who exemplify the Cardinal Virtues through the distribution of Cardinal Virtue Awards at school assemblies.

-Continue to facilitate opportunities for students to engage in the service of sacred music through weekly masses, benefit choir, and concert performances.

Responsibility

Administration
Rector/Associate Pastor, St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica
Teachers
Chaplain
Choral staff
Students
Elementary/Secondary Student Prefects

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

-Catechism of the Catholic Church
-Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations
-TCDSB Virtues of the Month

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

Student attendance at weekly masses, benefit choir, and concert performances
Student engagement in discussions with Rector/Associate Pastor
Student engagement at school assemblies
School Climate Survey

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	To create a positive school climate, conducive to the development of responsible young men.
Goal #2	To build student awareness of best practices to promote student safety while traveling to and from school.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-Share TCDSB safety tips (elementary and secondary versions, adapted from Child Safe Canada Student Safety Tips) with students at various points throughout the year, including at year opening grade-level presentations.

-Invite representatives from the Toronto Transit Commission to present to students to support safe travel while using public transit.

Responsibility

-Administration
-Teachers
-Representatives from TTC

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

-School Climate Survey
-TCDSB Safety Tips (adapted from Child Safe Canada Student Safety Tips)
-Bill 157: Keeping our Kids Safe at School

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

-School Climate Survey - responses to questions re: student safety perceptions
-Student engagement during Administration and TTC presentations re: student safety

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	To create a positive school climate, conducive to the development of responsible young men.
Goal #SVP 1	Encourage the engagement of student voice in relation to issues that matter to students, including: substance abuse (e.g., vaping, energy drinks), responsible digital citizenship, cyber safety, transitions to postsecondary, equity, mental health and wellness, and healthy relationships.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-Elementary and secondary prefects to present at school assemblies, co-constructing presentations with staff moderators to include reference to issues that matter to students.

-Guidance Department to organize events ('Ask the Alumni' and 'Career Fair') to enable current students to engage in conversation with alumni and industry professionals.

-Safe and Accepting Schools Team to identify organizations/guest speakers/teacher resources to build student awareness in relation to issues that matter to students.

Responsibility

-Prefects
-House Captains
-Class representatives
-Guidance Counselor
-Chaplain
-Teachers
-Guest Speaker
-Choir School Alumni

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

-TCDSB Monthly Equity Newsletter
-Safe Schools resources, including: Promoting Healthy Relationships, Student Generated Videos-Social Media, Tips for Students-Supporting Student Safety in a Virtual Environment, Understanding Relational Aggression, and Internet Safety and Cyberbullying: School Resources

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

-Exit tickets to be provided to student-participants following Guidance Department events to solicit student feedback
-School Climate Survey
-Staff conversations with students
-Referrals to TCDSB Special Services (Use of tiered intervention)

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

-Ongoing training for students/staff re: emergency response procedures as prescribed by TCDSB and influenced by local considerations.

-Hold emergency response drills (i.e., lockdown, hold and secure, bomb threat) on six occasions throughout the school year; some drills to be held at nonstructured times (e.g., student transition times, lunch time) to ensure increase focus on local considerations unique to the St. Michael's Choir School environment/site.

-Provide enhanced feedback to students re: participation in emergency response drills and unique local considerations.

-Continue ongoing communication with security guards.

-Engage TPS to provide additional information to students/staff regarding emergency response procedure protocol.

Responsibility

-Administration to provide training to students and staff re: emergency response procedures and schedule/administer emergency response drills.
-Staff to review emergency responses with students prior to drills.

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

-TCDSB Safe Schools Department Resources, including: Emergency and Crisis Response Plan (2023), Emergency and Crisis Response Contact List (2025), Individual School Plan for a Bomb Threat Response, Individual School Plan for a Lockdown Response Template, Lifting a Lockdown Emergency Response Procedure Package, Recordkeeping Event and Drill Log Emergency and Crisis Response Procedures, Emergency and Crisis Response Plan Poster School Version, and Threats to School Safety Emergency Response Brochure
-Input from members of the Safe and Accepting Schools Committee regarding local considerations

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

Emergency response drills to be assessed by Principal.