



# CATHOLIC INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

## DIOCESE OF PRINCE GEORGE

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### Student Threat Assessment Protocol - Fair Notice

It is essential that all students and staff of Catholic Independent Schools Diocese of Prince George (CISPG) be allowed to learn and work in an environment free from harm.

This is fair notice that threat behaviour and/or aggressive behaviour (reactions/responses) will not be tolerated and that all threats of a serious nature and all high risk behaviours will be investigated and assessed accordingly. This may involve other agencies and ministries including the RCMP. Should this occur regarding your child, you will be advised accordingly.

#### **Immediate Threat**

**In the case of immediate threat, staff will call 911 and take the appropriate emergency response measures. The Principal will then activate the Safe Schools Team, following established Violent Threat and Risk Assessment (VTRA) protocols.**

#### **What behaviours initiate a student threat assessment?**

A student threat assessment will be initiated when behaviours include, but are not limited to, serious violence or violence with intent to harm or kill, verbal/written threats to harm/kill others, Internet website/social media threats to harm/kill others, possession of weapons (including replicas), bomb threats and fire setting.

#### **Duty to Report**

To keep school communities safe and caring, staff, parents, students and community members must report all threat-related behaviours.

#### **What is a Threat?**

A threat is an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something. Threats may be verbal, written, drawn, posted on the Internet/social media or made by gesture. Threats must be taken seriously, investigated and responded to.

#### **What is a Threat Assessment Team?**

Each school has a Threat Assessment Team which is multi-disciplinary. The team may include Principal, Diocesan Safe Schools Coordinator, Learning Resource Teacher, and Police.

#### **What is the Purpose of a Student Threat Assessment?**

The purposes of a student threat assessment are:

- To ensure the safety of students, staff, parents and others;
- To ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat;
- To understand factors contributing to the threat makers' behaviour;
- To be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the threat maker;
- To promote the emotional and physical safety of all.

### **What Happens in a Student Threat Assessment?**

All threat making behaviour by a student shall be reported to the Principal who will activate the protocol for the initial response. Community personnel (ie, RCMP, MCFD) will be called in as required. Once the team has been activated, interviews may be held with the student(s), the threat maker, parents and staff to determine the level of risk and develop an appropriate response to the incident. Intervention plans will be developed and shared with parents, staff and students as required.

### **Can I Refuse to Participate in a Threat Assessment Process?**

It is important for all parties to engage in the process. However, if for some reason, there is a reluctance to participate in the process by the threat maker or parent/guardian, the threat assessment process will continue in order to promote a safe and caring environment.

### **Where Can I Get Further Information?**

For further clarification, contact your school Principal.

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#### CISPG Policy References:

##### SAFE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT - Policy 510

The CISPG Board of Directors recognizes that school environments must be safe for all students. Abuse of others will not be tolerated. The Principal or their designate will work together with all members of the school community to ensure that abusive relationships and activities do not threaten the safety of members of the school community. Electronic abuse of students and other members of the school community will not be tolerated.

##### THREATS TO STUDENTS, EMPLOYEES OR VOLUNTEERS/SPONSORS - Policy 525

The CISPG Board of Directors recognizes that students, employees, and volunteers/sponsors have the right to a safe and secure school environment.