

In light of its Mission Statement, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board is committed to the implementation in every school of the Catholic Code of Conduct that clearly reflects the need to provide and sustain a safe, caring, inclusive and healthy Catholic school community in which every student can succeed. The Catholic Code of Conduct is responsive to equity and inclusive education, and reflective of Ministry policy, ensuring a whole school approach in the development of a positive Catholic school learning environment for all. Recognizing the complexity of building and sustaining a whole school approach, the Catholic Code of Conduct provides a range of interventions, supports and consequences that are developmentally and socio-emotionally appropriate and include learning opportunities for reinforcing positive behaviour while helping students make better choices. All community members will work together to develop spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially, and emotionally by aspiring to the highest possible standards of Catholic behaviours, in living out the Gospel values, and by fostering a Catholic culture of respect, inclusion, equity, responsibility and concern for the wellbeing of all. It is the expectation of the Board that, provided there is no immediate risk of physical harm to any individual, staff members who work directly with pupils on a regular basis, shall, in accordance with board regulations, respond to any inappropriate behaviour and/or behaviour that impacts negatively on school climate or for which a suspension and/or expulsion may be warranted. Further, any incidents leading to suspension or expulsion must be reported to the principal or designate in accordance with board policy and procedures. The board recognizes that the Human Rights Code of Ontario has primacy over provincial legislation and school board policies and other administrative documents.

This policy includes requirements described in the Education Act and/or Ministry of Education Policy/Program Memoranda (PPMs) matters of policy. More particularly, it is also aligned with the requirements in Policy/Program Memorandum 128, Code of Conduct, Regulation 181/98, Identification and Placement of Exceptional Pupils, Ministry documents, including Caring and Safe Schools in Ontario: Supporting Students with Special Education Needs through Progressive Discipline, Kindergarten to grade 12, 2010, Ontario's Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy, 2009, Ontario First Nation, Metis, and Inuit Education Policy Framework, 2007, English Language Learners: ESL and ELD Programs and Services, 2007, and Bill 13, the Accepting Schools Act, 2012. The board recognizes that the Human Rights Code of Ontario has primacy over provincial legislation and school board 760.174

