



The purpose of a Student Threat Assessment is to:

- Ensure the safety of students, staff, parents and others
- Ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat
- Begin to understand the factors that contribute to the threat maker's behaviour
- Be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the threat maker.
- Promote the emotional and physical safety of all

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 or made by gesture. Threats must be taken seriously, investigated and responded to.

To keep school communities safe and caring, staff, parents, students and all community members must report all threat related behaviours. It is important for all parties to engage in the process, however, if for some reason there is reluctance to participate in the process by the threat maker or parent/guardian, the Threat Assessment Process will continue in order to ensure a safe and caring learning environment.

Each school has a Threat Assessment Team which is multidisciplinary. The team may include the Principal, Vice-Principal, School Social Worker, School Psychologist, Guidance Counsellor and Police.

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
- Indicators of suicidal ideation as it relates to fluidity (both homicidal and suicidal)
- Verbal/written threats to kill others (clear, direct and plausible)
- The use of technology to communicate threats to harm/kill others or cause property damage
- Possession of weapons (including replicas)
- Bomb threats
- Fire setting
- Sexual intimidation or assault
- Ongoing pervasive target issues with bullying and/or harassment
- Hate incidents motivated by factors including, but not limited to, race, culture, religion and/or sexual orientation.

All threat making behaviour(s) by a student(s) shall be reported to the Principal who will activate the protocol for the initial response. 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.

Cross Reference:

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Page: 1 of 1