

How will I know how my child is doing while he/she is in the program?

This program is successful when there is frequent and open communication among program staff, the home school, students and parents. At the intake meeting, program staff will develop a communication plan with you and your child (e.g. people, numbers, frequency, and method of contact).

What happens when my child's suspension is served?

Towards the end of the suspension, the Principal at your child's school will hold a meeting to facilitate his/her transition back to school. The date for this meeting will be set and the SAP Student Action Plan developed.

The purpose of the meeting is to review your child's progress while in the program and identify any additional academic and non-academic support he/she may require upon returning to school.

Those in attendance at the meeting include:

- School and board staff,
- You and your child, and
- Community agency staff and any other significant persons or professionals, where appropriate

Does the Board Provide Transportation To and From the Site and Home?

The parent/guardian is responsible for providing transportation to and from the site and home.

Will There Be a Permanent Record That my Child Attended This Program?

Your child remains on the enrolment register of his/her school during the suspension.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Support for Students on Long-Term Suspension

York Catholic District School Board Vision Statement

We are a Catholic Learning Community of collaborative partners, called to serve one another by being committed to and accountable for quality learning by all with Jesus as our inspiration.

**Safe Schools (Student Discipline)
Policy 202
September 2010**

Why does this program exist?

The York Catholic District School Board is committed to ensuring that all students who are on suspension have the opportunity to continue their education. For students on a long-term suspension of 6-10 school days, the board offers academic support at an off-site facility. For students on a long-term suspension of 11-20 school days, the board offers academic and non-academic support at the off-site facility.

- Program Mission –

With Jesus Christ as our inspiration, we exist to serve our school communities, their students and their families.

As a Catholic Learning Community, our focus is to provide a safe, caring and structured learning environment that promotes the well-being of students and staff.

We work collaboratively to help ensure our students have the opportunity to keep up with their studies and identify & address underlying issues and behaviours that resulted in the suspension.

How is the program organized to provide support for my child?

Program Staff – The program is staffed with a Vice Principal, a Teacher and a Child & Youth Worker.

Schedule – The daily schedule is flexible and tailored to meet the individual needs of the student and his/her family.

Does the program have the same resources as a regular school?

Yes. Students have access to the same curriculum used in their school as well as access to a Teacher, a Child & Youth Worker, computers, all the software found in our schools, internet-based resources, assistive technologies, and Smartboard technologies.

How does the staff in the program know the help my child needs?

Before your child begins in the program, there is a meeting at his/her school. At that meeting, the Principal develops a *Student Action Plan* (SAP). The SAP is tailored to your child's individual needs and outlines the objectives of the program.

In addition to the SAP, there is also an “intake meeting” at the program site to discuss the objectives. Parents attend this meeting.

Note – Students with an exceptionality are provided with appropriate support, consistent with the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP). Accommodations will be discussed during the development of the Student Action Plan (SAP).

What kinds of supports are mentioned in the “Student Action Plan” (SAP)?

If the suspension is for 6-10 school days, the SAP provides details on the “academic” support your child will receive so he/she doesn't fall behind in course work. If the suspension is for 11-20 school days, the SAP provides details on both the academic and non-academic supports your child will receive.

What factors does the Principal consider when creating the SAP?

In developing the SAP, the school Principal considers:

- your child's needs,
- the length of the suspension, and,
- the nature and severity of the behaviour that led to the suspension, including any mitigating and other factors.

What is meant by “Academic” Supports?

A Teacher provides “academic” support to ensure that your child has the opportunity to continue his/her education. Every effort is made to maintain his/her regular academic course work throughout the suspension period.

What is meant by “Non-Academic” supports?

As specified by the Principal in the SAP, “non-academic” support is provided to students on suspensions of 11-20 school days. It is intended to assist your child in the development of positive attitudes and behaviours. A Child & Youth Worker helps identify and address the underlying causes of the behaviour that lead to the suspension. This will help reduce the risk that your child might be given a suspension or expulsion in the future.

“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord ... plans to give you a future with hope.” *Jeremiah 29*