York Catholic District School Board

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS ON LONG-TERM SUSPENSION

We understand that receiving a suspension notice may be difficult and concerning for you, your child and your family. Please know that you are not alone.

This flyer provides information about the suspension process, the expectations during this period and the supports available to help your child reflect, learn and move forward. Our shared goal is to work together to support your child's well-being and help them return to school ready to succeed.

What is a Long-Term School Suspension?

A suspension means that a student is temporarily removed from school for up to 20 days. In Ontario, principals can issue suspensions. During this time, students will be given other opportunities to continue learning to help them stay on track with their education.

Students on suspension are not permitted to attend school or participate in regular school activities or events.

*Please note that a suspension must be served, even if it is being appealed.

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 an off-site facility.

YCDSB Mission

With Jesus Christ as our model, we provide all our students with a Catholic education rooted in equity, well-being and learning.

Contact Information

Contact the Superintendent of Education for your child's school, which can be found on your school's website.

For more information, scan the QR code or visit: www.ycdsb.ca

Safe & Caring Schools
March 2026



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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 their 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).

How is the Program Organized to Provide Support for my Child?

Program Staff – The program is staffed with teacher(s) and Child & Youth Worker(s).

Program Schedule – The daily schedule is flexible and tailored to meet the individual needs of the student and their family. Support is available Monday to Friday from 9:30am to 2:30pm. Most students attend for a four hour block each day.



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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 they do not fall behind in coursework.

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 is Meant by *Academic* Supports?

A Teacher provides academic support to ensure that your child has the opportunity to continue their education. Every effort is made to maintain their regular academic coursework 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 developing 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 receive a suspension or be expelled in the future.



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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.

Where is the Program Located?

The program is located at 301 Barrhill Road, Maple, Ontario L6A 1J5.

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

The board will provide transportation from your home to St. Luke and back home at the end of the school day.

How Will I Know How my Child is Doing While 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. who to contact, frequency and method of contact).



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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 their transition back to school. The date for this meeting will be set when the SAP is 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 they may require upon returning to school.

Those in attendance at the meeting include:

- You and your child,
- School and board staff, and
- Other persons or professionals, where appropriate

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

Your child remains on the enrolment register of their school during the suspension.

Documentation, including suspension letters, is added to the student's Ontario Student Record (OSR) and may be shredded following a retention of two years, or longer for serious incidents.

Additional Resources

Scan this QR code for additional resources that offer helpful information and support for students, parents and their families.

Any suspension appeal shall be held in accordance with this legislation and the YCDSB Safe Schools (Student Discipline, Policy 202).

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