



Student Safety Policy

Saplings Nature School

August 2022

Rationale

The establishment and maintenance of safe learning environments for all students is a high priority for Saplings Nature School. As such, schools should provide learning environments where students can attend without fear or threat of unsafe conditions, violence, or harassment, in order to ensure personal, physical, and emotional well being.

The purpose of this policy is to establish and maintain a safe, caring, and orderly environment for purposeful learning and to establish and maintain appropriate balances between individual and collective rights, freedoms, and responsibilities.

Policy

The Student Safety policy works in conjunction with Saplings' Child Protection, Emergency, Student Supervision, Field Trip, Student Code of Conduct, and Harassment and Bullying Prevention and Management policies to ensure that all students are supervised and safe during all Saplings' indoor and outdoor classroom activities, school events, sanctioned trips, or if/when children are left in Saplings' care before or after school hours.

School staff will ensure that particular attention is paid to:

- Meeting requirements of regulatory safety agencies
- Working in partnership with parents as it pertains to the safety of students
- Holding regular safety drills in both indoor and outdoor classroom settings
- Offering safety education to students and staff as pertinent to particular subjects and activities
- Reviewing and upholding school codes of conduct
- Developing and maintaining safe emotional conditions for students
- Observing and promoting safe interactions between and with students
- Promoting respectful interactions, attitudes, and behaviours
- Developing and maintaining safe physical conditions on school properties
- Ensuring safe physical conditions in outdoor learning areas
- Observing and upholding safe practices, particularly in those areas of instruction and student activities that present special hazards.

Student Safety Communication Protocols

In the event of a student safety incident (a serious act of violence or threat-making behaviours that impact students or a school community), please refer to the Student Safety Communications Protocol flowchart, which can be found on the [Erase website](#) in the secure login area ("Tools for Schools"). See below for a summary of the information provided in the Protocol:

If an independent school requires immediate critical incident response support, trauma-recovery support for staff, social media monitoring/digital threat assessment support, VTRA assistance, assistance with media and parent

communications, connect with Safer Schools Together directly by email or by phone: **604-560-2285 / 1-855-677-3720**

It is essential to notify the Ministry about incidents if there is media involvement (or strong potential of media involvement), high profile investigations or emerging issues/trends of concern, using this email or phone number **(778-974-6388)**

Please also use these contact details when requesting information (i.e. Erase training questions, templates and resources).