



Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board

Section: **Schools**

Policy: **Crisis/Trauma Response Plan** **SC:10**

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## **POLICY**

1. The Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board recognizes that in a school community crisis/trauma will occur which are often unpredictable and can have a powerful emotional impact on the students, staff and their families.
2. The Board shall respond to these needs with Christian dignity and compassion.
3. The Board accepts the following definitions:

**Crisis:** an unexpected event that cannot be prevented and which causes deep emotional reactions within the school, ex: death of a child or teacher, physical assault, suicide/attempted suicide, etc.

**Trauma:** any event outside the usual realm of human experience that is one's physical and/or psychological integrity or to the physical and/or psychological integrity of someone in close proximity, ex: bomb, use of a weapon, explosion, tornado, etc.

## **PROCEDURE**

1. Each school should have an In-School Crisis Support Team in place in September of each year to meet the needs of the school community in a time of crisis.
2. A Trauma Response Team shall be established by the Board to assist and support the In-School Crisis Support Team upon request by the Administration.
3. The flipchart entitled "Managing and Responding to Crisis" outlines the procedures to be followed and shall be available in each school.

Amended by the Board: November 13, 2001

Approved by the Board: April 25, 2000

Related Policy: SC07 Safe Schools (Violence Free)

Related Board Committee:

Policy Review Date: 2004