

Threat Assessment Protocol – Fair Notice

What is a threat?

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

Duty to report

To keep school communities safe and caring, staff, parents, students and community members must report all threat-related behaviours.

What is the purpose of a student threat assessment?

- ◆ To ensure the safety of students, staff, parents and others
- ◆ To ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat
- ◆ To understand factors contributing to the threat makers' behaviour
- ◆ To be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the threat maker
- ◆ To promote the emotional and physical safety of all

What behaviours initiate a student threat assessment?

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, verbal/written threats to harm/kill, online threats to harm/kill, possession of weapons (including replicas), bomb threats, fire setting, sexual intimidation or assault, gang related intimidation and violence.

What is a Threat Assessment Team?

Each school has a Threat Assessment Team which is multidisciplinary. The team may include principal, vice-principal, district resource counsellor, school counsellor and police.

What happens in a student threat assessment?

All threat making behaviour by a student 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. Investigations may involve locker or personal property searches. Intervention plans will be developed and shared with parents, staff and students as required. Threatening behaviour may result in disciplinary action.

Can I refuse to participate in a threat assessment process?

It is important for all parties to engage in the process. However, if for some reason there is a reluctance to participate in the process by the threat maker or parent / guardian, the threat assessment process will continue in order to promote a safe and caring learning environment.

Collection Notice

The School District is subject to personal information privacy laws, and will undertake the collection of this information in compliance with the requirements of such laws; including by limiting collection to information that is relevant and necessary to address a risk or threat. Information collected as part of a threat assessment may be provided to law enforcement authorities in appropriate circumstances.