

Anti-Bullying and Anti-Violence Plan

Laval Senior Academy
2021-2022

School: Laval Senior Academy



Coordinator: Reno Vaccaro

ABAV Committee Members:

Chris Kavallos

Domenic Di Stefano

Nathalie Rollin

Elaine Thomas

Lisa Benwell

Martha Assima

Approved by Governing Board: GB- Dec 2021

Resolution:

Anti-Bullying and Anti-Violence Plan

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Definition of Bullying and Violence

Bullying
Violence

The Elements of the ABAV Plan:

Element 1	Analysis of the Situation Prevailing at the School
Element 2	Prevention Measures
Element 3	Measures for Parent Collaboration
Element 4	Procedures for Reporting
Element 5	Intervention Protocol <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staff Response Protocol ○ Student Response Protocol ○ Parent Response Protocol
Element 6	Measures to Ensure and Protect Confidentiality
Element 7	Supervisory and Support Measures (For the victim, bully, witness & bystander)
Element 8	Specific Disciplinary Sanctions
Elements 9	Follow-up Protocol

Action Plan Evaluation

Definition of Bullying and Violence

Bullying

The word “bullying” means any repeated direct or indirect behaviour, comment, act or gesture, whether deliberate or not, including in cyberspace, which occurs in a context where there is a power imbalance between the persons concerned and which causes distress and injures, hurts, oppresses, intimidates or ostracizes.

Violence

The word “violence” means any intentional demonstration of verbal, written, physical, psychological or sexual force which causes distress and injures, hurts or oppresses a person by attacking their psychological or physical integrity or well-being, or their rights or property.

Elements of the ABAV Plan

-
- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Element 1 | An analysis of the situation prevailing at the school with respect to bullying and violence; |
| Element 2 | Prevention measures to put an end to all forms of bullying and violence, in particular those motivated by racism or homophobia or targeting sexual orientation, sexual identity, a handicap or a physical characteristic; |
| Element 3 | Measures to encourage parents to collaborate in preventing and stopping bullying and violence and in creating a healthy and secure learning environment; |
| Element 4 | Procedures of reporting, or registering a complaint concerning, an act of bullying or violence and, more particularly, procedures for reporting the use of social media or communication technologies for cyberbullying purposes; |
| Element 5 | The actions to be taken when a student, teacher or other school staff member or any other person observes an act of bullying or violence; |
| Element 6 | Measures to protect the confidentiality of any report or complaint concerning an act of bullying or violence; |
| Element 7 | Supervisory or support measures for any student who is a victim or bullying or violence, for witnesses and for perpetrator, (and bystander); |
| Element 8 | Specific disciplinary sanctions for acts of bullying or violence, according to their severity or repetitive nature, and; |
| Element 9 | The required follow-up on any report or complaint concerning an act of bullying or violence; |
-

Element 1

ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION PREVAILING AT THE SCHOOL WITH RESPECT TO BULLYING AND VOILENCE

School Portrait

School's socio-economic index:	4
Student population:	1362 students
Other pertinent information:	

Analysis

An analysis of the situation prevailing at the school with respect to bullying and violence is conducted each year by using the following indicators:

- Review and analysis of GPI / ISM (digital reporting platform) entries related to bullying and / or violence;
- Results from the latest *Our School Survey* (formerly *Tell Them From Me*). This survey measures 17 indicators based on the most recent research on school and classroom effectiveness. This report provides highlights based on data from 995 students in this school that participated in the survey between November 3rd 2021 and November 26th 2021.

Selected Survey results of LSA from the 2021-2022 "OurSchool" Survey

- **Bullying, exclusion, and harassment**
This chart shows that LSA, as an average for all three grade levels, is 2% lower than the Canadian norm. Although we strive to decrease this number, this shows that our work on monitoring and handling issues of bullying, exclusion and harassment seems to be progressing well.
- **Students that value schooling outcomes**
Students who believe that education will benefit them personally and economically, and will have a strong bearing on their future. The chart below shows that students at LSA score much lower than the Canadian norm.
- **Feel safe attending this school**
Taking all three grades as an average, 36% of the students at LSA reported feeling safe attending school, a 12% increase from April 2019. Seeing that the Canadian Norm is 65%, LSA should prioritize how safe students feel at our school as this represents a very large deviation from the Canadian norm. *It is important to note that the survey did not specify if the students felt this way because of the current state of the pandemic.*

- **Students who are interested and motivated**

The chart below shows that 18% of students across all three grade levels at LSA, are interested and motivated in their learning. This is much lower than the Canadian norm of 37%.

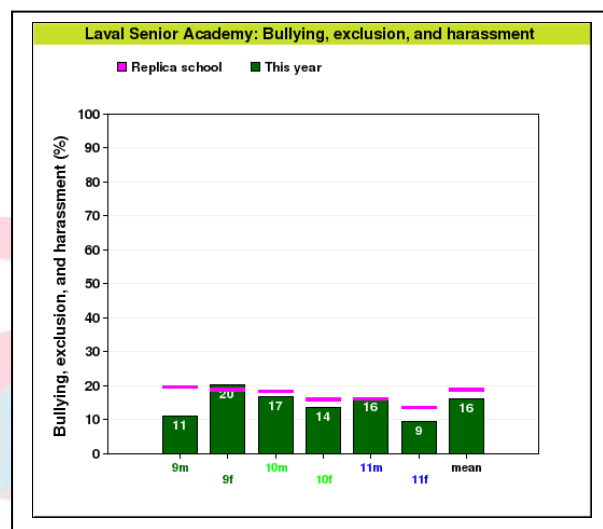
- **Students with a positive sense of belonging**

This will be a major focus for our committee this year. At LSA, 52% of students had a high sense of belonging. We are looking to increase the number of students who feel accepted and valued by their peers and by others in our school. The Canadian norm is 64%.

Bullying, exclusion, and harassment

Students who are subjected to physical, social, or verbal bullying, or are bullied over the internet.

- 16% of students in this school were victims of moderate to severe bullying in the previous month; the Canadian norm for these grades is 18%.
- 15% of the girls and 15% of the boys in this school were victims of moderate to severe bullying in the previous month. The Canadian norm for girls is 17% and for boys is 18%



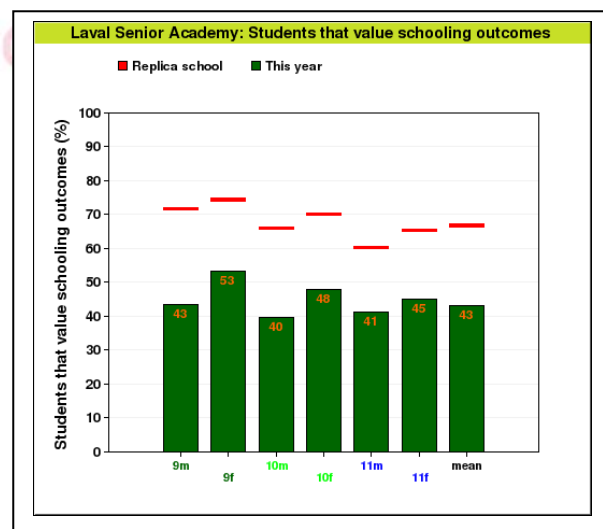
COMMISSION SCOLAIRE SIR-WILFRID-LAURIER

SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL

Students that value schooling outcomes

Students who believe that education will benefit them personally and economically, and will have a strong bearing on their future.

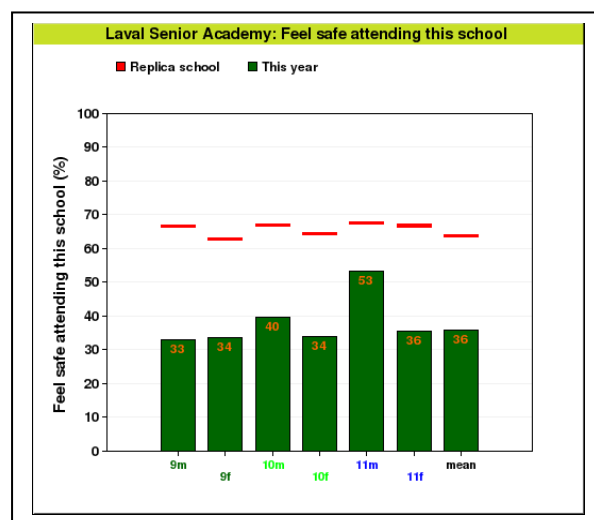
- 43% of students in this school valued school outcomes; the Canadian norm for these grades is 67%.
- 49% of the girls and 41% of the boys in this school valued school outcomes. The Canadian norm for girls is 69% and for boys is 66%.



Feel safe attending this school

Students who feel safe at school as well as going to and from school.

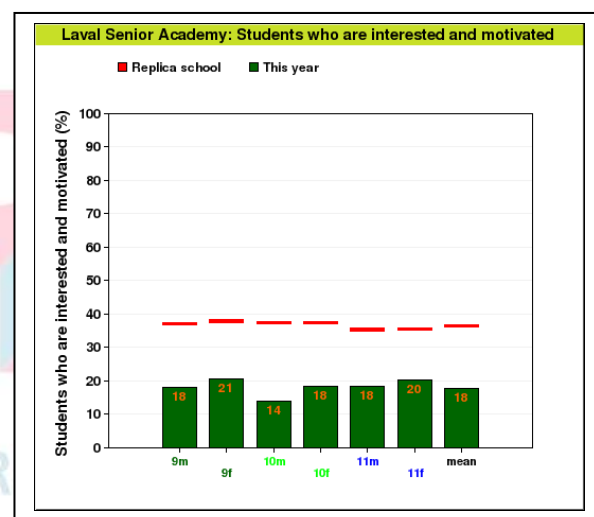
- 36% of students felt safe attending the school; the Canadian norm for these grades is 65%.
- 34% of the girls and 40% of the boys felt safe attending the school. The Canadian norm for girls is 64% and for boys is 67%.



Students who are interested and motivated

Students who are interested and motivated in their learning.

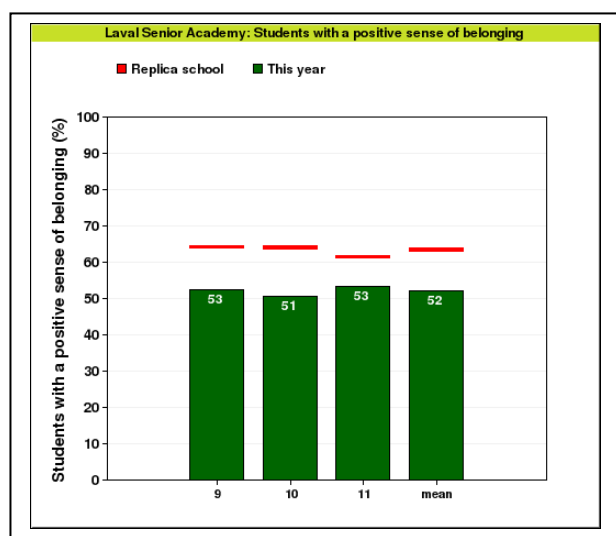
- 18% of students in this school were interested and motivated; the Canadian norm for these grades is 37%.
- 20% of the girls and 16% of the boys in this school were interested and motivated. The Canadian norm for girls is 37% and for boys is 37%.



Students with a positive sense of belonging

Students who feel accepted and valued by their peers and by others at their school.

- 52% of students in this school had a high sense of belonging; the Canadian norm for these grades is 64%.
- 48% of the girls and 61% of the boys in this school had a high sense of belonging. The Canadian norm for girls is 59% and for boys is 70%.



Element 2 PREVENTION MEASURES

To address the area(s) of concern, the following preventative measures aimed at putting an end to all forms of bullying and violence; in particular those motivated by racism or homophobia or targeting sexual orientation, sexual identity, a handicap or a physical characteristic include:

1 -	The annual participation <i>in Our School Survey</i>
2 -	A census of the student population in order to define what they believe makes a safe school
3 -	The reporting and reviewing of our prevention programs
4 -	Using the LSA website to provide resources for parents
5 -	Establishing the LSA Youth Center with various partners involved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Police liaison - Nurse - Drug Prevention Counsellor - Social Worker - Psychologist - Guidance Counselor - Spiritual Animator
6 -	The annual implementation of at least one resource such as Chomedey en Forme – Promoting positive leadership, Partners for Life (mental wellness), Healthy Bodies/Healthy minds
7 -	The establishment of an annual Digital Citizenship Week – focusing on cyber etiquette and anti-cyber bullying
8 -	Linking with CEGEPs and University support programs
9 -	The provision of social skills support for targeted students
10 -	Opportunities for PD sessions for all staff members to deal with health and safety. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 – Reviewing ABAV plan twice a year by the ABAV committee. 12 – Reviewing the LSA Code of Conduct with the Governing Board. 13 – Creating physical spaces in the school for students to spend time together. 14 – Survey students to have a better understanding of why they feel disconnected from the school. 15- Developing a program of mindfulness with staff and students.

	<p>16- “Boys to men” & “Girls to women” mentorship program</p> <p>17- Workshops given throughout the year, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Stress and Anxiety- Motivational speaker- Self-esteem and Body Image- Food for Life <p>18- Provide an “Anti-Bullying” guest speaker</p> <p>19- Have school-wide themed days to improve students sense of belonging to the school.</p> <p>20- Offer school-wide activities for students (tubing/skiing, La Ronde) to improve students sense of belonging to the school.</p>
--	---



COMMISSION SCOLAIRE SIR-WILFRID-LAURIER
SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD

Element 3 MEASURES FOR PARENT COLLABORATION

The success of this plan depends on the understanding and support of all of our stakeholders. School administrators and staff play a key role in developing programs and strategies to improve daily school life. Students also have a responsibility to promote and support positive behaviours. Parents are equally important and necessary partners in this initiative. Parents are encouraged to be active advocates for their children and to be aware of changes in their behaviours and to contact the school when behaviours at home become a concern.

The following measures are aimed at encouraging parents to collaborate in preventing and stopping bullying and violence and in creating a healthy and secure environment.

1. The School's Code of Conduct will be communicated with the parents (agenda, curriculum night, bulletins/memos, and/or on school website).
2. The ABAV Plan will be explained and made available to parents/guardians; it will be posted on the school website, under the tab ABAV.
3. Ongoing communication between principal and / or their designate and parents of children who are being bullied and those who are engaging in bullying behaviours until the resolution of the situation. Periodic communication with students who are bullied and their parent(s) to ensure that measures taken have been successful and the bullying has ceased.

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish and exercise a clear communication process between the administration and parents of victims, witnesses or perpetrators; - Provide parents with workshop opportunities offered by the school board with regards to health and safety in the school; - Inform parents at the start of the school year through email and student agenda that specifically when communicating with staff that the Code of Conduct must apply. |
|--|

Element 4 PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING

The school will take the necessary measures to ensure confidentiality for all parties.

An incident of bullying and/or violence can be reported verbally (in person or by phone) or in writing (by email or by letter addressed to school administration). Students who wish to write a note to report an incident are encouraged to include their name for follow up.

Staff members who receive a report must document the information and submit the information to administration for follow up.

When parents have been told about a bullying situation or an act of violence, they are expected to communicate with the school principal, an alternate administrator or the classroom teacher. The report will be documented. Following the investigation, the parent should be contacted and advised that the situation has been investigated and appropriate action has been taken. Details are not divulged so as to maintain confidentiality.

All members of the Laval Senior Academy community are entitled to a safe, non-threatening and easily accessible process for reporting incidents of bullying or violent behavior regardless of whether they are victims, witnesses or a reporting party. Incidents of bullying and violence can be reported or registered verbally or in writing. All reports must have sufficient information for follow-up and Laval Senior Academy will assure this process by:

Allowing students to report or register an incident of bullying by:

- Leaving a note in an administrator's mailbox;
- Contacting the principal or a vice-principal directly;
- Or speaking to any staff member.

Allowing teachers and staff members to send a written report to the principal of the school:

- Starting an investigation process within 48 hours;
- Following the investigation, scheduling a meeting with staff member in order to achieve a resolution for all parties involved;
- If necessary, scheduling a meeting with perpetrator as soon as possible.

Requiring any staff member to follow up by:

- Bringing students to an administrator, a Special Education Technician or a Guidance Counsellor;
- Or by providing a referral with as much detail of the incident as possible.

Element 5 INTERVENTION PROTOCOL

Our school is committed to providing a safe, caring and positive climate. Adult indifference is not-tolerated. School personnel must report and/or investigate all incidents of bullying and take appropriate action whether they personally observe incidents or learn of them by some other means. Reporting, investigation and action must occur even if the victim does not file a formal complaint or does not express overt disapproval of the incident.

This *Intervention Protocol* establishes practices and procedures for observed and reported incidents of bullying and/or violence.

For purposes of this Protocol, “*Conduct*” may include:

- Physical acts, such as inappropriate, unwanted, uninvited, or injurious physical contact with another; stalking; sexual assault; and destruction or damage to property of another;
- Written and electronic communication of any type that incorporates language or depictions that would constitute bullying, using any medium (including, but not limited to, cell phones, computers, websites, electronic networks, instant message, text messages and emails);
- Verbal threats made to another, including blackmail, extortion or demands for protection money;
- Direct or indirect, relationally aggressive behaviour such as social isolation, rumor spreading, or damaging someone’s reputation;
- Any of the above conduct which occurs off school grounds when such creates, or can reasonably be expected to create, a substantial disruption in the social setting and/or at school-sponsored activities and events.

In addition to the conduct described above, examples of conduct that may constitute bullying or violence include the following:

- Blocking access to school property of facilities;
- Stealing or hiding or otherwise defacing books, backpacks or other personal possessions;
- Repeated or pervasive taunting, name-calling, belittling, mocking putdowns, or demeaning humor relating to a student’s race, color, gender, sexual orientation, ancestry, religion, disability, or other personal characteristics, whether or not the student actually possesses them, that could reasonably be expected to result in the disruption of school activities or that results in a hostile educational environment for the student.

Conduct that would **not** ordinarily be considered bullying or violence includes:

- Teasing
- “Talking trash”
- Trading of insults
- The expression of ideas or beliefs that are protected by the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, so long as such expression is not lewd, profane, or intended to intimidate or harass another.

1. STAFF RESPONSE PROTOCOL

Any staff members who witness an act of bullying or violence must intervene immediately or as quickly as reasonably possible to address the issue.

1. The immediate safety and security of all parties must be ensured.
2. All incidents of bullying / violence must be reported to the principal, in a timely fashion.
3. A bullying/violence incident must be documented.
4. The school principal or their designate must investigate all reports in a timely fashion, preferably within 24 hours (when possible) of receiving initial report.
5. The **member of the administration** responsible for investigating the report about the behavior should:
 - a) Interview student(s) exhibiting bullying behavior and the target / victim(s) separately to avoid further victimization of the target.
 - b) Engage the target / victim first and focus on his/her safety.
 - c) Reassure him / her that the bullying behavior will not be tolerated and that all possible steps will be taken to prevent a reoccurrence.
 - d) Offer the victim counselling **services** (if needed).
 - e) Inform parents of the incident and subsequent intervention. (Details of the intervention or disciplinary actions are not to be shared in order to protect confidentiality).
 - f) **At the discretion of the principal or his/her delegate, police intervention may be requested.**

2. STUDENT RESPONSE PROTOCOL

Any student who witnesses an act of bullying or violence **is strongly encouraged**, as a responsible member of the school community, to report the incident to school authorities **in a timely fashion**.

The following are the means through which a student may do so:

- Inform a staff member on duty.
- Inform administration.
- Mention it to a teacher or staff member.
- Tell parent/guardian.

3. PARENT / GUARDIAN RESPONSE PROTOCOL

- Report the incident to a school administrator or classroom teacher.

***At the discretion of the principal or his/her delegate, police intervention may be requested.**



COMMISSION SCOLAIRE SIR-WILFRID-LAURIER
SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD

Element 6 MEASURES TO ENSURE AND PROTECT CONFIDENTIALITY

Measures to protect the confidentiality of any report or complaint concerning an act of bullying or violence shall include:

1. Staff is reminded that every incident and the ensuing follow-up must be kept confidential. This is done at least once each year.
2. Reports of bullying and / or violence are recorded on a digital database that has restricted access.
3. Use of intervention strategies that protect the anonymity of persons who report or provide information.



COMMISSION SCOLAIRE SIR-WILFRID-LAURIER
SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD

Element 7**SUPERVISORY AND SUPPORT MEASURES**
(for the victim, bully, witness & bystander)

It is the responsibility of every adult staff member to use difficult / challenging situations as opportunities to help students improve their social and emotional skills, accept personal responsibility for their learning environment, and understand consequences for poor choices and behaviours.

A clear distinction exists between *remediation* and *consequences*.

- a) **Remediation**, intended to counter or “remedy” a behavioural mistake, can be an effective prevention practice. Remediation measures are intended to correct the problem behaviour, prevent a reoccurrence, protect and provide support for the victim and take corrective action for documented systemic problems related to bullying and violence. Remediation measures allow the student an opportunity to reflect on behaviours, learn pro-social skills and make amends to those affected. Working with recovery plans and restorative justice practices are categorized as remediation.
- b) **Consequences** communicate to a perpetrator that their behavior is their choice and their responsibility. A consequence respects the child’s right to make a decision, even if it’s not a good one. It’s a matter-of-fact learning experience in which you maintain a better relationship with the child as you hold them accountable. Consequences are almost always enacted in conjunction with remediation measures and restorative practices. Measures should be applied on a case-by-case basis and take into consideration a number of factors including:

Student Considerations:

- Age and developmental maturity of the students involved;
- Nature, frequency and severity of the behaviours;
- Relationships of the parties involved;
- Context in which the alleged incidents occurred;
- Patterns of past or continuing behaviours;
- Other circumstances that may play a role.

School Considerations:

- School culture, climate and general staff management of the learning environment;
- Social, emotional and behavioural supports;
- Student-staff relationships and staff behaviour toward the student;
- Family, community and neighborhood situation;
- Alignment with policies and procedures.

Examples of remedial measures and consequences may include, but are not limited to, the examples listed below:

Remediation Measures for Victims

- Meet with counsellor / mentor / special education technician / administrator / staff member to:
 - Create a safe environment to allow victim to explore feelings about incident. Maintain open lines of communication.
 - Develop a plan to ensure student's emotional and physical safety at school.
 - Ensure student does not feel responsible for the behaviour.
 - Ask student to log and report any and all future related incidents.
 - Offer counseling to help develop skills for overcoming the negative impact on self-esteem.
- A staff member will conduct scheduled follow-up meetings with the student to ensure the bullying or violence has stopped and to provide support to the student. The degree of support offered at these meetings and their frequency shall depend upon the feedback from the victim regarding the current circumstances.
- In all cases, it will be determined which members of the school staff must be made aware of the incident to ensure that the student is safe.
- Parents will be informed immediately following the incident and regularly updated until the situation is resolved.
- Other: **At LSA, a victim will:**
 - Be part of any discussion or follow-up meetings with the school team;
 - Be permitted to leave school if deemed necessary;
 - Receive an action plan and / or re-integration plan;
 - Receive support from the School Board when necessary.

Remediation Measures for Student Exhibiting Bullying Behaviour

- Develop an intervention plan with the student. Ensure the student has a voice in the outcome and can identify ways he / she can solve the problem and change behaviours.
- Meet with parent(s)/guardian(s) to develop a recovery plan agreement to ensure all understand school rules and expectations, as well as the long term negative consequences of bullying or violence, on all involved, and to clearly outline the consequences if the behaviour continues.
- Meet with special education technician, school counsellor, social worker or psychologist to:
 - Explore mental health issues or emotional disturbances – what is happening and why?
 - Offer additional social skills training such as impulse control, anger management, developing empathy and problem solving.
 - Arrange for apology – written is recommended.
 - Arrange for restitution – particularly if any personal items were damaged or stolen.
 - Determine restorative practices (age appropriate).

- Other: At LSA, a perpetrator will:
 - Be part of any discussion or follow-up meetings with the school team;
 - Receive an action plan and /or re-integration plan;
 - Receive support from School Board when necessary in order to prevent recidivism.
-



COMMISSION SCOLAIRE SIR-WILFRID-LAURIER
SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD

Remediation Measures for Witnesses

- Following the incident, an intervention may be held with any witnesses to determine their role in the incident. If the incident witnessed is severe, witnesses are met, in a group or individually, to debrief the event, discuss their role and to determine more appropriate actions in the future.
 - The school reserves the right to contact the parents of bystanders.
 - As with victims, witnesses to acts of bullying or violence should have a reasonable expectation of feedback from intervening adult figures in a timely manner so as to guarantee a sense of safety and security in the school.
 - Other: **At LSA a witness (also referred to as a “bystander”) will:**
 - Be a part of any discussion, follow up meeting if necessary;
 - Receive positive reinforcement for “coming forward”
 - Reaffirm the confidential nature of their reporting.
-

Remediation Measures for Student Bystanders

- Review Student Response Protocol.
 - Explore reasons why they did not intervene or report the incident.
 - Offer of coaching on how to safely intervene or help the situation.
 - Other: **A Bystander will:**
 - Be a part of any discussion, follow up meeting if necessary;
 - Receive positive reinforcement for “coming forward”
-

Element 8 SPECIFIC DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Based on the severity and / or frequency of incidents and at the discretion of the administration, the following disciplinary and / or corrective actions may include, but are not limited to:

- Parent notification
- Admonishment / conference with student (verbal warning)
- Reflection activity or action
- Recovery plan ~ Restorative measures or practices
- Written warning and deprivation of privilege(s) / service(s)
- Restitution
- Mediation or conflict resolution (when deemed appropriate)
- Probation and letter of expectations
- Detention
- In-school suspension
- Out-of-school suspension
- Referral to alternative to suspension program for schools offering such a program
- Referral to counsellor, external social / medical agencies, for support
- Legal action / report to law enforcement, if required
- Signaling of youth protection
- Convocation to a disciplinary hearing at the school board
- School transfer
- Expulsion

COMMISSION SCOLAIRE SIR-WILFRID-LAURIER
SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD

Other: When reporting an incident at LSA, any recommendation as to the nature of the severity by the person(s) reporting the incident will be taken into account in order to determine which disciplinary measures should be taken. The administration reserves the right to make the final decision as to which disciplinary actions should be taken. The particular context of each situation with regard to the intent, age or special needs of the student will determine the appropriate cause of action. The following actions are not listed in order of severity.

Sanctions for minor incidents:

- Reflection time – discussion with supervising staff about the incident and how better to deal with similar situations should they occur
- Reporting to the parents if deemed necessary
- Referral to the Student Services Centre
- Reflection sheets
- Social skills interventions
- The development of a reintegration plan.

Sanctions for moderate incidents:

- The student will be immediately sent to the office or designated place
- Parents will be phoned
- Loss of privileges. Examples may be: community work (lunch hour) ECA's – social school activities (movies, dances, activities, other;
- Social skills interventions
- The development of a reintegration plan.

Sanctions for severe Incidents:

- Suspension and / or Diversion Program
 - Parents will be contacted
 - Expulsion
 - Community service or some form of restitution for the community
 - Consultation with police
 - The development of a reintegration plan
 - Meeting with administration and staff member
 - Student moved to another school.
-

Element 9 FOLLOW-UP PROTOCOL

The principal or their designate will ensure that each incident was properly followed up on and documented. Follow-up measures will include the following:

- Verification that the incident has been properly documented.
- Verification that all parties immediately involved have been met with and that intervention protocols have been followed.
- Verification that parents of the victims and perpetrators have been contacted.
- Meeting with the victim and perpetrator to assess their well-being, and that the bullying / violence has ceased.
- Verification of the completion of all remedial measures for all parties concerned.
- Referral of parents to complaints procedure, should the parents express dissatisfaction with the course of action from the school administration.



COMMISSION SCOLAIRE SIR-WILFRID-LAURIER
SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD

End of Year Evaluation

To ensure the integrity of its Plan, the administration of our school will conduct a yearly evaluation that reviews:

- The *Our School Survey* results.
 - Revision and analysis of GPI / ISM (digital reporting platform) entries related to bullying and / or violence to assess decrease or increase in incidents of bullying and/or violence.
 - The initiatives put in place for the year and assessment of effectiveness of the actions.
-



COMMISSION SCOLAIRE SIR-WILFRID-LAURIER
SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD