



3301 Dieppe Street

Saskatoon, SK S7M 3S6

(306) 659-7290 st.dominic@gscs.ca

<https://www.gscs.ca/studentsandfamilies/schools/DOM>

GREATER SASKATOON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS MISSION STATEMENT

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools: a welcoming community where we nurture faith, encourage excellence in learning and inspire students to serve others, making the world a better place.

"We love because He first loved us"

1 John 4:19

ST. DOMINIC MISSION STATEMENT

In following the example of our first teacher, Jesus, we at St. Dominic Catholic School nurture, educate and empower our students so that they envision a world where "all things are possible."

VISION STATEMENT

At St. Dominic Catholic School, we pursue excellence and innovation in learning to inspire our students to become knowledgeable leaders, who will build compassion in our world.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

- Hands off
- Clean language
- Walking in the hallways
- Keep clean Mother Earth

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

We, the members of St. Dominic School, are committed to building a safe and caring, respectful School environment. Bullying behavior will not be tolerated. Guided by the Gospel virtues and our school Code of Conduct, bullying behavior will be dealt with in a serious and timely manner. The members of St. Dominic School believe that we have the right to a safe, caring and respectful school environment. We also have the responsibility, by our actions, to ensure that each one of us is in a safe, caring and respectful school environment.

DEFINITION OF BULLYING

A person is bullied when he or she is repeatedly exposed to negative actions on the part of one or more people causing emotional, psychological and/or physical harm. These negative actions are intentional and hurtful. Bullying can be verbal, physical, relational or reactive; including use of technological devices. Bullying involves an imbalance of power, creates fear, and is not gender specific.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The effectiveness of this policy will depend on the level of open and honest communication between everyone involved.

A. In addition to the expectations outlined in the school Code of Conduct,

All students are expected to:

- Be positive and caring role models
- Refrain from bullying or being bystanders to acts of bullying
- Be active participants in school-wide and class anti-bullying initiatives
- Be active participants in social skills programming
- Report acts of bullying to appropriate school personnel, parents/guardians
- Conduct themselves in a manner consistent with Gospel values and the teachings of Jesus Christ.

1.1 Students who choose to engage in bullying behavior are expected to:

- Take all necessary steps to stop bullying behavior
- Be aware, responsible and accountable for bullying behavior
- Learn and apply respectful strategies to overcome bullying behavior
- Accept the consequences of their behaviors

1.2 Students who witness bullying behavior are expected to:

- Try to stop the bullying behavior by telling the people involved that the behavior is unacceptable, and not be a bystander
- Honestly and accurately report bullying behavior
- Support the person being targeted in positive ways

1.3 Students who are the target of bullying behaviors are expected to:

- Honestly and accurately report bullying behaviors
- Learn and apply respectful strategies to counter bullying behaviors.

B. All members of St. Dominic staff are expected to:

- Provide a supportive environment that upholds the Gospel virtues and encourages positive relationships between students, staff, and parents/guardians
- Investigate all reports of bullying
- Address bullying behaviors in an age appropriate manner
- Maintain a comprehensive anti-bullying policy, guided by our school Code of Conduct, comprised of: anti-bullying programs and strategies, investigation of reports of bullying, intervention and follow-up
- Keep lines of communication between home and school
- Encourage and educate students in reporting incidents of bullying behavior
- Teach social skills programs that help students learn respectful strategies to counter bullying behavior
- Conduct themselves in a manner consistent with Gospel virtues and the teachings of Jesus Christ.

C. Parents, Guardians, Parish, and Community Members are expected to:

- Be active contributors to a safe, caring and respectful school environment
- Learn about bullying behaviors and related issues
- Inform the school if bullying is suspected
- Work with the school to resolve identified bullying incidents in a positive manner.

CODE OF CONDUCT

BACKGROUND

St. Dominic School Code of Conduct defines the values and vision of the school community in which all relationships are conducted in a respectful and dignified manner. Catholic schools, share with parents, the responsibility to develop students' personal and social skills to achieve this vision. Consequently, we believe:

Each person within our school
has the right to feel emotionally and physically safe.

Each person has the responsibility to
contribute to a safe, positive learning environment.

EXPECTATIONS FOR:

Students

1. In accordance with the Education Act, students are accountable to the school coming to and from the school, during the school day including the noon hour and during school sponsored activities such as field trips, and social or sporting events.
2. attend school regularly and observe the rules of the school,
3. participate willingly in the learning program,
4. relate to all members of St. Dominic with a basic level of respect
5. respect others' safety, wellbeing and property,
6. be accountable for behaviour and responsive to reasonable, related and respectful consequences and
7. participate in creating a safe, positive environment conducive to learning.

School Staff

1. participate in creating a safe, positive environment conducive to learning,
2. maintain the school code of conduct and
3. involve students in developing classroom discipline practices which utilize reasonable, related and respectful consequences that will model, teach and reinforce appropriate behaviour.

Parents/Guardians

1. support their child(ren) in regular and punctual attendance at school,
2. support their child(ren) in the completion of homework assignments,
3. participate in creating a safe, positive, learning environment and
4. work and cooperate with the school to resolve concerns involving their child(ren).

INCIDENT RESOLUTION FOR:

Students

The Education Act states, "In all cases, students will be subjected to such discipline as would be exercised by a kind, firm and judicious parent." With this in mind one has to recognize and appreciate that there is no "formula" for dealing with unacceptable behaviour. Each incident that is brought to the attention of the school administration will be handled as the situation requires.

Staff

Conduct for staff is governed by collective agreements and locally developed school board policy. Concerns related to the conduct of staff are directed to the Principal for follow-up.

GENERAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Hours

<u>AM</u>		<u>PM</u>	
8:30	School Doors Open	12:12	Lunch Recess
8:45	Warning Bell	12:30	Warning Bell
8:50	Classes Begin	12:35	Classes Resume
10:20	Recess	2:05	Recess
10:35	Classes Resume	2:20	Classes Resume
11:50	Lunch Bell	3:30	Students Dismissed
		3:24	School Bus Departs

School Attendance

School Attendance At St. Dominic School, the SafeArrival attendance system is used to report student absences. As always, one of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely to school and are accounted for. Regular attendance is necessary for both academic and social success. With SafeArrival, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these 3 convenient methods:

1. Using your mobile device, download and install the **SchoolMessenger** app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>). The first time you use the app, select **Sign Up** to create your account. Select **Attendance** then **Report an Absence**.
2. Use the SafeArrival website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>. The first time you use the website, select **Sign Up** to create your account. Select **Attendance** then **Report an Absence**.
3. Call the toll-free number **1-844-425-7221** to report an absence using the automated phone system. These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time.

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Newsletters

At St. Dominic School, newsletters are emailed to the families through our School Messenger Broadcast system once a month. The newsletter can also be accessed online at:

<http://www.gscs.sk.ca/studentsandfamilies/schools/DOM>

Supervision Before and After School

The doors to the school open at 8:30 am daily. Students should not arrive at school before 8:30 am since supervision is not provided before this time. When the students arrive, they should directly enter and remain in the school. At the 3:20 pm dismissal, students should exit the building and head to the bus (if they qualify for bus transportation) or walk directly home. If you need to drop your child off earlier than 8:30 am or you need to pick them up after 3:20 pm, please access the Before and After School program.

Before and After School Program

At St. Dominic we have a Before & After School program that is run by **The Boys and Girls Club of Saskatoon**. It is a drop-in program where families pay an hourly fee for the time they used. **The Before School program runs from 7:15 am to 8:50 am. The After School program runs from 3:20 pm to 6:00 pm.** To register your child for the program or for more information, please contact them at 306-659-7760, or the Boys & Girls Club directly 306-665-1450.

Noon Lunch

Staying for lunch is a privilege. Those students who stay for lunch will be supervised and they must follow the expectations that we have set for them. If these expectations are not followed, the parents will be notified, and the students will forfeit this privilege for a time.

Allergy Alert

We have students with life threatening peanut/nut allergies. The degree of sensitivity to peanuts/nuts varies greatly. For some children, an allergy to peanuts/nuts can be life-threatening. For the safety of our children, we ask that you refrain from sending peanuts/ nuts or food containing peanuts/nuts. We also have students with Asthma, and we discourage the use of strong scented perfumes, cologne or hygiene products. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation and consideration of these students, parents and staff.

Outdoor Recess

Students are expected to go outside at recesses and lunch break. Please be sure your child comes to school dressed appropriately. If weather is inclement or very cold (-25 or colder with the wind chill) students will remain in classrooms.

Bus Transportation

Transportation is provided for those families who reside in the designated areas and live 1.2km away from the school. If you do qualify, you must apply for transportation (forms can be picked up at the office) and be contacted by the bus driver before your children can access the bus.

- Bus service within Montgomery area will be cancelled when the temperature with the wind chill is at or below -45°C at 7:00 am. Please use the Hertz info hotline (306) 374-4777.
- The Prairie Spirit Buses will be cancelled if the combined temperature/wind chill factor is -40°C or colder at 6:00am. Please use the My Stop app for information regarding late or cancelled bus pick-ups. If you require a password, please contact Mrs. Kavanagh.
- There are also times when the buses do not start due to the cold weather or get delayed due to traffic congestion.

- **If your son/daughter is waiting for the bus and it does not arrive, they should return home. Please remind them of this and have a plan in place as we do not want students walking in extreme cold weather.**
- You may hear of bus cancellations through the media or on social media.

Reporting Student Progress

There are three reporting periods in Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools. They are in the following months: November, March and June. Students set learning goals each term, collect pieces of their work for their portfolios, reflect on their work regularly, determine whether they are achieving their goals, and share the information with parents/ guardians and teachers at three-way conferences. Portfolios are sent home prior to the conferences for the students to share with their parents. Goals are then finalized at the conference and the Progress Reports are sent home the following week. This results in an increased focus upon the conference as a celebration of learning where future goals are set. This is an extremely important part of the learning process. We encourage all parents/ guardians to be actively involved.

Dress Code

- Students are asked to dress respectfully to mirror the Christian values that permeate our school.
- As a sign of courtesy, everyone is expected to take off their cap, hat or toque when they enter their classroom.
- T-shirts with lettering or logos should display positive messages. Reference to alcohol, tobacco, drugs or obscene designs or words will not be allowed.
- Skirts and shorts should be modest and appropriate for activities that students participate in during the day.
- Mesh, halter, tube, strapless, and spaghetti strap tops are not allowed.
- All undergarments for boys and girls must be concealed.
- Midriffs must be covered, including when arms are raised.

Bicycles/Scooters/Skateboards

To minimize risk to others, students are required to exercise caution when riding their bikes and scooters to and from school. Students will walk their bike or scooter on the school tarmac near the school building as well as by the primary entrance. Bicycles and scooters should be locked up to the bike racks. Riding bikes, scooters, and skateboards at recess is not permitted. Students are to stay off bikes and bike racks during recess.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Our primary objective is to provide each student the opportunity to participate in activities where the emphasis is on having fun, developing sportsmanship, improving physical fitness, promoting leadership and learning specific skills. Participation in interschool sports will depend on the number of students interested and the availability and expertise of staff to coach. Parents are asked to assist in transporting students to and from games/events.

Field Trips

Field trips are an experiential method of learning and are used to extend and enhance learning or complement the physical education program, therefore all students are expected to participate. Parents/ guardians are always invited to help with field trips. You will always be informed about excursions and you may have to complete a permission slip for your child depending upon the activity.

Communicable Diseases

Communicable diseases can spread rapidly through a classroom. To control the spread of these diseases, children who have a fever, diarrhea, or rashes should not attend school until they are well and/ or have been treated by a doctor. Children who have been in contact with a communicable disease should be kept home at the first sign of illness. Children with the following should be treated before returning to school: Lice, Scabies, Ringworm, Impetigo, Strep Throat, Scarlet Fever, and Eye Infections.

School Counsellor

Counselling services are available to all students. If teachers recognize the need to refer a student, we will contact the parents before continuing with this service. As well, parents may request counselling for their children, and students may refer themselves.

Family Life Instruction

The Family Life Program, FULLY ALIVE, was implemented in 1994 for all students from grades one to eight. It is approved by the Bishops of Canada.

Student Possessions

Parents please make sure that your children's supplies, equipment and clothing are clearly labeled. This will help cut down the amount of lost and found items. We also request that students do not bring valuable items to school as the school does not carry insurance for those items. (i.e. I-Pods, iPads, Cell Phones etc.)

Medication Policy

If your child requires medication to be administered by the school, please come to the school for further information. There are special policies which govern the administration of medications. We require parental and medical authorization for prescription medications. We are not allowed to administer any non-prescription medications such as Tylenol, Advil, etc.

Hot Lunches – Online Ordering

We typically have one hot lunch days/month and we use the Healthy Hunger online ordering service. All orders and payments can be completed through the Healthy Hunger website @ <http://www.healthyhunger.ca>. There, you will see all our hot lunches listed for the school year. Simply follow the directions to create an account and place your order(s). Healthy Hunger accepts Visa, MasterCard and Interact (debit). Late orders are not accepted.

Catholic Community Council

Our Catholic School Community Council is an important link between home, community and our school. Everyone is welcome to attend Parent Council Meetings. They will be on the first Monday of every month at 6:45 pm. The meetings are held in the library.

Parental Concerns – Communication Protocol for Parents

We believe that communication is the cornerstone of building a healthy and happy school community. If you have a classroom level concern, please contact your son/daughter's teacher directly. If the concern continues to be unresolved, please feel free to contact the Principal. For general school level concerns, you can also contact the Principal.