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| <b>Violent Threat Risk Assessment</b>  |   |
| <b>Adopted:</b><br>February 19, 2013   | <b>Last Reviewed/Revised:</b><br>May 15, 2018 |
| <b>Next Scheduled Review:</b> 2020-2021  |   |
| <b>Associated Policies &amp; Procedures:</b><br><a href="#">II-39 Progressive Discipline and Safety In Schools</a><br><a href="#">VI-44 Progressive Discipline and Safety in Schools</a> |   |

## Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to define the procedures and parameters as outlined in the *Halton Violent Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) Community Partner Protocol*. Specifically, this process is a multidisciplinary approach, among numerous Halton Community Partners, that deals with youth who demonstrate violent or threatening behaviours that may impact the safety of themselves and others in a school setting. The focus of the procedures outlined in the Protocol document is to identify indicators that suggest that a student may be moving on a path towards violence against themselves or others. As such, intervention to decrease the risk, prevent injury and support the student in receiving the help necessary to address the issues contributing to the high-risk behaviour(s) is implemented after consultation with professionals from various community partners, including police.

## Application and Scope

This policy and the related procedures outlined in the *Halton VTRA Community Partner Protocol* document applies to all staff in HCDSB schools who have a direct responsibility for student safety and to those students in Halton schools that demonstrate high risk behaviours that may lead to compromising the safety of other staff, students, school visitors and themselves. While most VTRA are initiated by school staff, including school support staff, there can be circumstances where school staff are invited to be a part of a VTRA that is initiated by a community partner and is conducted off of the school site and/or beyond the regular instructional day.

## Definitions

**Protocol** - refers to the *Halton Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) Protocol*

**Partners** - refers to the signatories of the Halton VTRA Protocol Plan of Action – a chart that depicts the goals, recommendations, actions, respective persons responsible and projected date of completion and is included as part of the Intervention Plan.

## Principles

- The Halton Catholic District School Board endorses the guiding principles of partnership, cooperation, consultation and accountability in the enactment of this policy is committed to ensuring the safety of our schools, students, staff and visitors.
- All Protocol partners will respond to all student behaviours that pose a potential risk to any students, staff or members of the community
- Early intervention measures by the School Boards and community partners will prevent violence in our schools and in the community.
- The Halton Catholic District School Board school board meets all requirements for student safety as outlined in the Education Act.
- The effective continuing implementation of this Protocol will support collaborative planning to prevent traumatic events. In addition, the timely sharing of information about students at risk of violence towards themselves and/or others will ensure that risk management and safety and support plans are put into place.
- The individual's rights to privacy and the safety of all will be respected as the multi-disciplinary VTRA Team shares and reviews student information and details of an "event".
- HCDSB is accountable to the Protocols' purpose and have a shared responsibility to actively take steps to prevent traumatic events in schools. HCDSB, along with Partners agree to work together for the common goal of threat reduction and school and community safety by sharing information, advice and support in a proactive way that assists in the prevention of a potential traumatic event.
- As a Partner, HCDSB is committed to work together for the benefit of children and youth by:
  - Building working relationships based upon mutual trust and respect.
  - Involving children, youth and their families in planning for services and supports.
  - Recognizing that each student has unique strengths and needs that must be considered when developing an Intervention Plan and a Plan of Action.
  - Participate in ongoing training, staff development and program review, as appropriate
- HCDSB is transparent and open to ensure that information is shared in a timely manner

## Requirements

- School administrators are required to initiate VTRA as per the Protocol when such behaviours present themselves.
- Superintendent of Safe Schools is responsible to ensure that all school administrators and appropriate school and Board staff are VTRA Protocol trained.



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- Superintendent of Safe Schools will maintain a copy of the VTRA Safety Plans and results of the VTRA Protocol being enacted.

APPROVED: Regular Meeting of the Board

AUTHORIZED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Chair of the Board*