

## **School Closure Policy – Emergencies and Inclement Weather Conditions**

The closing of school as the result of emergencies and inclement weather conditions may occur when the safety of students and staff are threatened. School may be closed while in progress and staff and students are sent home as a precautionary measure. Other situations may require that the school be closed before the start of the actual school day. Such closures are usually the result of inclement weather conditions.

In the event that the school needs to be closed during the course of the school day, high school students will be permitted to leave with the consent of the principal. No special arrangements will be made. For students in the junior school, students will be permitted to leave with the consent of the principal, but in some circumstances the principal may wish to make special arrangements for their dismissal from school.

When emergency situations or weather conditions necessitate the closure of the regular school day, parents, students and staff will be informed via the radio - 680 News, the 680 News website, [www.680news.com](http://www.680news.com), extension 100 on the school's telephone system, and the main page of the school website, [www.delasalle.ca](http://www.delasalle.ca).

It is imperative to note that the school day will be cancelled due to inclement weather conditions such as an inordinate amount of snowfall only when the Toronto District Catholic School Board and/or the Toronto district School Board close. It is, therefore, to be presumed that school closing will occur only on rare and exceptional occasions. Staff and students are expected to be present and to remain until such time as the principal determines. Parental permission for students to sign out after their arrival at the school is to be strictly discouraged.

As many students travel considerably long distances to get to school, parents whose children live outside the Greater Toronto Area are asked to use their discretion and good judgment about sending their children to school when their safety arriving to and from school is concerned. Once students have arrived at school, the school will provide them with as normal a school day as is possible. Successful and conscientious students are usually present in such circumstances. An early dismissal from school will occur only when the principal determines that it is feasible and necessary. Parents of students who are permitted to drive to school are cautioned about the carrying of passengers and any vicarious liability issues.

Teachers will exercise their discretion regarding the writing of tests, submission of assignments and extra-curricular activities, etc. The rescheduling of examinations will be determined by the principal.

Safety and good order are the determining factors when considering school closure. The need to adhere as much as possible to regular school routine remains the objective when it is deemed feasible.