



Niagara Catholic District School Board CONCUSSION ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND STUDENTS

The Niagara Catholic District School Board is committed to student safety, injury prevention and well-being, and supports concussion awareness, prevention, identification, management, tracking, and training in Niagara Catholic schools. The prevention and response to a student concussion requires the cooperation of all partners in the school community, including parents/guardians, students, staff, volunteers and physicians/nurse practitioners.

A student or the parents/guardians of a student who is under 18 years of age who is suspected of having sustained a concussion must provide confirmation that the student has undergone a medical assessment by a physician/nurse practitioner.

When a student is diagnosed with a concussion, a Return to School Plan to support the student's Return to Learn (RTL) and Return to Physical Activity (RTPA) will be created in consultation with the principal, parents/guardians, the student, staff and physician/nurse practitioner.

Parents/Guardians will:

- ensure their child's personal equipment meets current safety standards and reinforce concussion prevention strategies and school safety expectations, if applicable.
- be familiar with the [Niagara Catholic Concussion \(303.1\) AOP](#) and the [Ophea Concussion Protocol, Return to Learn and Return to Physical Activity](#).
- learn about concussions, including prevention, signs/symptoms, and management, using board approved resources [Ophea](#) and [Rowan's Law](#).
- review concussion information with their child.
- annually review with their child, and sign the Medical Information, Acknowledgement of Risk and Permission to Participate Form, available on SchoolCash Online, confirming review of the concussion codes of conduct for students and parents/guardians.
- respect and adhere to the roles and responsibilities of parents/guardians.
- ensure their child is assessed promptly by a physician/nurse practitioner following a suspected concussion and follow all medical recommendations.
- collaborate with the school to manage a diagnosed concussion and report any non-school-related concussions to the principal.
- support the Return to School Plan-Return to Learn (RTL)/Return to Physical Activity (RTPA).
- provide confirmation of medical clearance by a physician/nurse practitioner prior to the student's return to full participation in physical activities.

Students will:

- learn about concussions, including prevention, signs and symptoms, management, and student responsibilities, through age-appropriate curriculum resources such as [Ophea](#) and [Rowan's Law](#) resources.
- annually review, and sign the Medical Information, Acknowledgement of Risk and Permission to Participate Form, available on SchoolCash Online, confirming review of the Student Code of Conduct prior to participating in sports/physical activities.
- wear the required equipment in the appropriate manner, if applicable.
- follow the rules and regulations of the activity, and respect the instruction from staff, coaches, supervisors or trainers.
- immediately inform school staff of any suspected or diagnosed concussion, whether it occurs at school or outside of school, and report any concussion related symptoms, including delayed or recurring symptoms.
- remain on school premises until parents/guardians arrives if a concussion is suspected.
- communicate concerns during recovery with parents/guardians, school staff, the concussion liaison, and physicians/nurse practitioners.
- follow medical advice and comply with the Return to School Plan-Return to Learn/Return to Physical Activity.