

# Emergency Preparedness FAQ

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## What is the emergency preparedness plan?

It's a comprehensive plan designed to prepare teachers, administrators, students and parents for an emergency at the school. It includes a number of policies that will help keep your children safe during a fire, earthquake or other emergency.

One part of the plan is holding regular fire and earthquake drills. These drills will help staff and students prepare for a real emergency.

In the event of a real emergency, our priorities are as follows:

- accounting for all students and personnel
- attending to immediate physical & emotional needs
- releasing students to their guardians in a safe and orderly manner

## If there is an emergency at the school, what should I do to connect with my children?

It's very important to follow the school's reunification plan in case of an emergency.

- **Do not call the school.** We need to keep telephone lines open for emergency calls.
- **Do not drive directly to the school.** Roads around the school must be kept clear for emergency vehicles. If you can't walk to the school, please park off of the school's primary access route.
- **Bring identification.** We can only release children to people identified on the Consent for Emergency Release of Students form that is sent to all guardians at the start of the school year.
- **Tune your battery-operated radio or car radio to a local station.** Information and directions for picking up your children will be broadcast on these local radio stations:
  - 650 am - CISL
  - 690 am - CBC Radio One
  - 730 am - AM730
  - 980 am - CKNW
  - 1130 am - CKWX
  - 1410 am - CFUN
  - 93.7 fm - JR-FM
  - 95.3 fm - Z-95
  - 96.9 fm - Jack FM
  - 99.3 fm - The Fox
  - 101.1 fm - Rock 101

- **Please stay calm.** We'll take every precaution to protect and provide for each of our students.

### **What should I do if I can't reach the school immediately?**

You should have a family member or family friend listed on the Consent for Emergency Release of Students form. Be sure to regularly confirm that this person is willing and able to pick up your child in case of an emergency, and make sure that your child knows that this person may pick them up.

If you can't reach the school to pick up your child after an emergency, you should try to contact this person. If possible, he or she should pick up your child.

If no one on your child's Consent for Emergency Release of Students form can pick up your child, we will care for children for up to 24 hours in designated safe-areas on school property. If you can't pick up your child for more than 24 hours, we will use community resources for your child's care.

### **What can I do to help prepare my family for an emergency?**

There are many ways parents can help to prepare for an emergency.

- **Prepare a family disaster plan.** You can use the Red Cross guide posted here: [http://www.redcross.org/static/file\\_cont36\\_lang0\\_23.pdf](http://www.redcross.org/static/file_cont36_lang0_23.pdf)
- **Keep a list of emergency contacts.** Make sure your children know how to find this list.
- **Keep emergency supplies on hand.** The link above includes a list of useful emergency supplies.

### **Who should I contact for more information?**

In an emergency, please call our emergency hotline at 604-555-9789 for more information. Otherwise, for more information about the emergency plan, please contact the school board at 604-555-3456