



Student / Parent Handbook

ST. CECILIA - A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

Principal – Mrs. Nella Funaro

Assistant Principal – Mr. Celestin Nzeugang

Assistant Principal – Mrs. Christine Szaszkievicz

ÉCOLE ST CECILIA JUNIOR HIGH
8830 -132 AVENUE
EDMONTON, ALBERTA T5E 0X8
780.476.7695



Bienvenue! Welcome!

At École St. Cecilia Junior High we celebrate each student's own unique gifts and talents. Here, students will develop their interests, creativity, and critical thinking skills. We achieve this through rigorous academic programming and by offering diverse option courses - providing our students with a well-rounded education that will allow them to make informed decisions for their future.

The St. Cecilia Experience

PURSuing YOUR DREAMS. ACHIEVING YOUR BEST. YOU ARE TOMORROW'S LEADERS.

We are a friendly and welcoming school community. We offer fellowship based on Catholic core values. Our students receive exciting learning opportunities that inspire them to work, play, and pray together. Here, students realize their best growth - intellectually, spiritually, emotionally, and socially. We emphasize Faith development and social justice. Our Christ-centered learning environment instills Catholic traditions and values. We encourage students to live the teachings of Jesus through religious celebrations and daily prayer.

School Mission & Vision

Mission Statement

The mission of École St. Cecilia is to provide a Catholic education that inspires students to become lifelong learners and responsible Catholic citizens through faith respect and collaboration

Vision statement

Our students will be inspired by Catholic faith to pursue excellence, act responsibly, and serve others as a committed Catholic citizens through innovative academic, artistic, and athletic programs.

St. Cecilia, our patron saint, inspires us to have the strength and courage to pursue our dreams, strive for excellence, and to use our gifts and talents to make a difference.



Embracing...

FAITH & LEARNING to provide a Catholic education that inspires and prepares students to learn, to work, to live fully, and to serve God in one another.

Inspired by...

Love of the Father,
Faith in Jesus Christ,
Hope from the Holy Spirit.

Mandated by...

Our students' parents.
The Church's mission.
Alberta Education's mandate.

TIGER PRAYER

Loving God, give me:
Faith to follow my dreams,
courage to conquer my fears,
and strength to stand up for
what is right.

Mon Dieu, donne-moi:
La passion de poursuivre mes
rêves, le courage de conquérir
mes peurs, et la fortitude de
faire ce qui est bon et juste.

HOMEROOM

Students are assigned a homeroom teacher. Homeroom teachers take special interest in their students. Together, homeroom teachers and their students build a sense of community within the class. All homeroom teachers teach their students Religion.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Daily Office Hours: 8:00 am – 3:45 pm

	M/T/W/F	Thursday
FIRST BELL	8:19	8:19
Block 1	8:24 – 9:14	8:24 – 9:14
Block 2	9:16 – 10:04	9:16 – 10:06
Announcements	10:04 – 10:08	10:06 – 10:10
Locker Break	10:08 – 10:12	10:10 – 10:14
Block 3	10:12 – 11:00	10:14 – 11:04
Block 4	11:02 – 11:51	11:06 – 11:56
Lunch Break	11:51 – 12:28	
Block 5	12:31 – 1:14	
Block 6	1:16 – 2:04	
Block 7	2:06 – 2:54	
DISMISSAL	2:54	11:56

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2026 - 2027 – Important Dates

SEPTEMBER		JANUARY	
2	Grade 7s ONLY – Gr. 7 Orientation	4	Classes resume
3	Grade 8 & 9s ONLY – Thursday schedule	21	Winter Showcase
4	First day of classes – ALL Students	28	Grade 6 Orientation/ Open House
		29	PD Day – NO SCHOOL
2-3	- School Opening Mass for grade 7s on September 2 - School Opening Mass for grades 8 and 9 on September 3	FEBRUARY	
23	Meet the Staff	9	Shrove Tuesday
28	Terry Fox Run	10	Ash Wednesday – Liturgy in the gym
29	Orange Shirt Day	15	Family day NO SCHOOL
30	Truth and Reconciliation – NO SCHOOL	17	Demo of Learning
		24	Faith Development day
		25 - 26	Teachers' Convention – NO SCHOOL
OCTOBER		MARCH	
6	Picture Day	9	Bandshare
8	PD Day – NO SCHOOL	19	Folklofolie
9	Thanksgiving Liturgy	25	Division PD instruction day
12	Thanksgiving – NO SCHOOL	26	Spring Break – NO SCHOOL
31	Halloween	APRIL	
NOVEMBER		5	Spring Break – NO SCHOOL
4	Picture Retakes	Mar 5 – April 5	Quebec trip – French Immersion
10	Remembrance Day Celebration	7	Easter Mass @ St. Cecilia
11 -15	Remembrance Day & Fall Break	24	Badminton Tournament
25	Student-led Conferences	29	PD Day – NO SCHOOL
27	St. Cecilia Feast Day	MAY	
DECEMBER		19	Track and Field Day
17	Advent Liturgy @ St. Cecilia	20 -24	Victoria Day Weekend – NO SCHOOL
December 22 – January 2		27	Spring Fine Arts Showcase
Christmas Break – NO SCHOOL		JUNE	
All projected dates are correct at time of printing. Check the school website regularly for the most current dates: stcecilia.ecsd.net			

COMMUNICATION

Open and positive communication between the home and the school is one of the most important contributions we can make to the educational development of our children. By working together, we help all students achieve their academic best.

Protocol for Communication:

The district has a protocol for addressing classroom and school concerns. All parties must recognize and respect the protocol, and more specifically the **principle of “first contact.”** This means that the person who has the concern has a responsibility to begin communication directly with those people with whom they have the concern. Based on the **principle of “first contact”** parents must address concerns **directly to the teachers**, before raising these concerns with the school administration or School Operation Services staff, whether their concerns be about their child's teacher, program, and/or support.

Likewise, if a parent has a concern about the school administration, the parent is expected to address that concern with school administration first, before raising concerns with the Chief Superintendent. If the ruling of the school principal is unacceptable, the complainant may address his/her concerns to the Chief Superintendent by contacting Lumen Christi Catholic Education Centre – School Operation Services by phone (780.441.6000) or by email (info@ecsd.net).

You must outline the nature of the original complaint, the steps that have been taken and in what way the decision of the school principal is unacceptable. Upon receipt of such a letter or call, the Chief Superintendent will direct the correspondence to the appropriate department for resolution.

Should there be a concern involving another child at the school, please involve your child's teacher or an administrator rather than approaching the other child or their parents.

LATES & ABSENCES

Everyday attendance is essential to being a successful student!

Parents/Guardians must phone the school when a student will be absent. Leave a message if you call outside of office hours (8:00 am - 3:30 pm). ECSD's automated phone system will call any student's parents/guardians if we do not know why they are absent.

Parents/Guardians must come to the office to sign out any students leaving school before the end of the day. Students arriving late in the morning must sign in at the office before going to class.

NEWSLETTER & CORRESPONDANCE

We email the newsletter and do a Tiger talk for updates. We communicate information to parents as it becomes available. We also share what's happening at school through our various social media accounts. Follow us on: Twitter and Instagram!

POWERSCHOOL

Parents are required to follow their child's ongoing academic progress through PowerSchool.

Logging in to PowerSchool regularly allows parents to keep track of:

- assignments (due dates or missing assignments)
- assessment information
- attendance
- scheduling information

PowerSchool allows for easy communication with teachers. It is also where you can pay fees online. If you need help with a PowerSchool username and/or password, please contact the office at 780.476.7695. Parents who are new to ECSD will receive a username and password when all registration documents are complete.

SCHOOL SECURITY

We take the following measures to ensure that our students and staff are safe:

- All doors remain locked during school hours
- Closed campus during lunch
- Scheduled fire drills and lockdown practices
- Up to date first aid equipment and staff certification
- Supervision throughout the school day
- Surveillance system

Lunch Procedures

CLOSED CAMPUS

Students must remain on school property during the lunch break. Everyone eats lunch in their designated area inside the school. Students may go outside on school grounds for the rest of the lunch break. Under no circumstances are students to leave the school property. Exceptions may occur for students who live within walking distance of the school. Their parents must send written permission that is kept on file in the office.

LUNCH DROP OFFS

Students are expected to bring a nutritional lunch with them each day.

On the rare occasion, parents may drop off a lunch (or have one delivered) for students. All lunches delivered to the school must be clearly marked with the student's name. Students are responsible for picking up their lunch from the office after the lunch bell.

We do not disturb classes to notify student of a lunch delivery, nor do we deliver lunches to students. Parents must ensure their child is aware a lunch is waiting for them in the office.

LUNCH FACILITIES

Students are provided with safe and supervised areas to eat their lunch. These areas are the small gym for our Grade 7 students and the foyer for our Grade 8 & 9 students. Hot water and microwaves are available for students. As well, we provide a breakfast program for students.

Policies & Procedures

LOCKERS

Each student is assigned a locker and one rental lock at no cost. Only school issued locks may be used on lockers. Students are responsible for keeping the locker clean at all times.

Personal belongings should be stored in the locker and lockers must be locked at all times. Items of value are to remain at home. DO NOT share your combination with anyone!

The school reserves the right to search any student's locker. This would occur if the administration considered a search necessary to maintain the integrity and safety of the school.

TEXTBOOKS

Students receive textbooks for all CORE subject areas. Students are responsible for the care of their textbooks. Replacement cost, or fines for damaged books, are applied to a student's PowerSchool account.

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students are allowed to bring personal electronic devices such as laptops, Chromebooks, tablets, and cell phones to school. Laptops, Chromebooks, or tablets can be used for academic purposes. Students using their devices for personal use must adhere to ECSD's Student Responsible Use Agreement.

CELL PHONES – “Away for the Day” Cell Phone Policy

Student cell phones are kept in students' lockers for the entire school day - 8:24 am to 2:55 pm.

- Cannot be kept on the student's person or in their bag
- Not to be used in the classroom, library, common areas, locker rooms, or restrooms
- Not to be used during the lunch hour
- ***Parents can contact the school or students can use the office phone to contact their parents. Please do not call your child on their cell phone during school hours.***

Consequences of not putting cell phones “Away for the Day”

1. Staff will address the student, take the phone, and give it to an administrator in the office. Students can pick up their device at the end of the day. Contact home will be made.
2. Staff will take the phone and give it to an administrator in the office. An administrator will phone home to inform parents. Students will be expected to drop off the device in the office for a period of 1 week when they arrive in the building. Students pick up their device at the end of each day.
3. Parent meeting required. Further consequences may be applied including potential suspension.

Why is this necessary?

- Cell phones have become a distraction
- Photos/Videos have become an issue
- Social media is a distraction and stops students from paying attention in class and to people they are with
- No longer being used for what they were intended
- Brain Drain – studies show just having your phone out is distracting and consumes your attention
- Test scores improve by over 6% when we put our phones away!

Code of Conduct Policy

EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS

At École St. Cecilia Junior High excellence is part of our school culture! Our students have a tradition of excellence in the areas of academics, arts, athletics, attitude, and behavior.

In our mission of promoting excellence, we expect students to:

- Embody Catholic attitudes, behaviors, and values
- Have regular and punctual attendance
- Take part in all school activities and projects
- Be respectful of peers, staff, and property
- Respect the rights of others
- Strive for high levels of personal achievement
- Be good ambassadors in the larger community

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

At École St. Cecilia Junior High Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that safeguards and contributes to a safe and caring environment that fosters and maintains respectful and responsible behaviours. Every individual plays a vital role in respecting diversity and fosters a sense of welcome and belonging for all members of the school community.

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Our goal is for students to be responsible for their behavior. Our priority is to establish and maintain an appropriate balance between individual and collective rights, freedoms, and responsibilities in our school community. Our code of conduct is in place to help students learn how to address issues of dispute, develop empathy, and become good citizens both within and outside of the school community.

The St. Cecilia community believes that we are called to recognize the divine in each person and that we are all children of God. We uphold the Alberta Human Rights Act (AHRA) where all persons are equal in dignity and rights and responsibilities.

We affirm that the rights set out in the Alberta Human Rights Act (AHRA) refers to any conduct that serves to deny or discriminate against any person or class or persons regarding any goods, services, accommodations, or facilities that are customarily available to the public is forbidden if the denial or discrimination is based on:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| • Race | • Religious beliefs | • Color |
| • Gender | • Sexual harassment | • Age |
| • Gender identity | • Sexual orientation | • Place of origin |
| • Physical or mental disability | • Ancestry | • Source of income |
| • Marital status | • Family status | |

With this in mind, our community members are expected to behave in a Christ-like, self-disciplined, and responsible manner when interacting with others ***in the school building, outside of school or school hours, or electronically.***

Acceptable Behaviors	Unacceptable Behaviors
Students will: ⇒ Respect yourself and the rights of others in the school. ⇒ Refrain from, report, and refuse to tolerate bullying or bullying behavior, even if it happens outside of the school or school hours or electronically. ⇒ Inform an adult you trust in a timely manner of incidents of bullying, harassment, intimidation, or other safety concerns in the school. ⇒ Act in ways that honors and appropriately represents you and your school. ⇒ Attend school regularly and punctually. ⇒ Refrain from engaging in violence of any kind at school and during school related activities. ⇒ Assist in the prevention of violence without putting the student's own safety or well-being at risk, by co-operating with school staff and supporting intervention efforts. Students are encouraged to report incidents of concern to school staff ⇒ Be ready to learn, actively engage in, and diligently pursue your education. • Know and comply with the rules of your school. • Cooperate with all school staff. • Be accountable for your behavior to your teachers and other school staff. • Contribute positively to your school and your community. Refrain from engaging in violence of any kind at school and during school related activities.	Behaviors that interfere with the learning of others and/or the school environment or that create unsafe conditions. ⇒ Acts of bullying*, harassment, or intimidation. *See "Peer Conflict, Mean Behavior & Bullying" table for definition. ⇒ Retribution against any person in the school who has intervened to prevent or report bullying or any other incident or safety concern. ⇒ Physical violence ⇒ Use of profane language ⇒ Defiance ⇒ Reckless or dangerous behavior ⇒ Illegal activity such as: • possession, use, or distribution of illegal or restricted substances • possession or use of weapons (real or fake) • theft or damage to property <u>Important:</u> ▪ Police will automatically be involved in the investigation of illegal activities and charges could be laid. ▪ Spectators to physical violence are a major contributing factor to its continuation. Being a spectator to physical violence is considered a serious offence.

Note: According to Alberta's Education Act, while school staff are not able to control what students do outside school... students will be held accountable for conduct that occurs outside of the school building, school day, or electronically if the conduct negatively affects a member of the school or interferes with the school environment.

CONSEQUENCES OF UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOURS

St. Cecilia staff will consider the specific circumstances of the situation, the student's age, maturity, and individual circumstances when determining appropriate consequences for unacceptable behavior. We will also address how support will be provided to students impacted by inappropriate behavior and to those students who engage in inappropriate behavior. All information affecting the decisions made about the consequences or support put in place for a student will be discussed with their parent/guardian only, in compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Supports may include preventative procedures, mentoring, restorative processes, regular check-ins with staff, restrictions of privileges, behavior contracts, etc.

A severe breach of conduct may require suspension (in-school and/or out of school) or expulsion in accordance with section 36 of the Education Act.

PEER CONFLICT, MEAN BEHAVIOUR AND BULLYING What's the difference?

Social Responsibility & Diversity Team – Vancouver School District #39

Peer Conflict	Mean Behavior	Bullying
It's a natural part of growing up. Children disagree and can't solve their own problems. They become so frustrated that they say mean things or act out physically by hitting, kicking, or trying to hurt. If it's peer conflict you will be aware that these children: ➔ usually choose to play or hang out together; ➔ have equal power (similar age, size, social status, etc.); ➔ are equally upset; ➔ are both interested in the outcome; and ➔ will be able to work things out with adult help (after calming down). Adults can respond by helping the children talk it out and see each other's perspective. This is often referred to as "conflict resolution".	Children may try out behaviors to assert themselves – sometimes saying or doing mean things – such as making fun of others, using a hurtful name, taking something without permission, leaving a child out, or "budging" in line. If it is mean behavior, usually: ➔ it is not planned and seems to happen spontaneously or by chance; ➔ it may be aimed at any child nearby; ➔ the child being mean may feel badly when an adult points out the harm they've caused. When adults see mean behavior, they should not ignore it. Adults should respond quickly, firmly, and respectfully to stop the behavior, to let kids know that their actions are hurtful and to re-direct children to more positive behavior.	Bullying is serious behavior that has three key features – all three must be present for the situation to be considered bullying: ➔ Power imbalance -- One child clearly has power over the other(s), which may be due to age, size, social status, and so on. ➔ Intention to harm -- The purpose of the behavior is to harm or hurt other(s) – it's clearly not accidental. ➔ Repeated over time -- continues over time and gets worse with repetition. There is a real or implied threat that the behavior will not stop, and in fact will become even more serious. The effect on the child who is being bullied is increased fear, apprehension, and distress. Adults must address the bullying behavior and ensure the safety of the student who has been targeted.

Reporting Bullying

Students who are being bullied or witness someone being bullied have the responsibility of telling an adult. Some ways to report are:

- ⇒ tell an adult in the school that you trust
- ⇒ if you need support telling an adult at school you can talk to a parent, relative, coach, mentor, or friend and have them help you report bullying to the school.

What does it mean to "not tolerate bullying"? This doesn't mean you have to step into the middle of something. You can show your support in many different ways, including:

- ⇒ model the behaviors you would like to see in others
- ⇒ support the person who is the target of the behavior
- ⇒ don't watch or encourage bullying behaviors - this sends a message that you think these behaviors are okay
- ⇒ if it's safe say to the person "hey, let's go" and walk away with them
- ⇒ check in with the person who was bullied to see if they are ok and if they have someone to talk to. This could be in person or by text.
- ⇒ support the person to tell an adult. This might be through encouraging them or going with them.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENTS

Students are accountable for their conduct. What does it mean to be accountable for your conduct? Everyone makes mistakes so it's not about being perfectly behaved all the time. When you do make mistakes, it's about admitting and owning up to those mistakes, taking responsibility and when necessary, making things right.

You can contribute to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging by:

- ⇒ smiling at your peers and the adults in your school
- ⇒ calling your friends on their behaviour (in a nice way) when they are not contributing to a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe environment
- ⇒ greeting visitors to your classroom or school
- ⇒ being friendly and helpful towards students that are new to the school and others
- ⇒ sitting with someone who is alone at lunch, inviting someone to play with you at recess, or working together to complete a project
- ⇒ keeping your school and school grounds clean and tidy
- ⇒ coming to school/class on time and as prepared as possible
- ⇒ treating everyone with respect even if you don't agree with their beliefs and/or values
- ⇒ having empathy for others
- ⇒ following classroom and school expectations so everyone is able to learn
- ⇒ no put downs or snickers when questions are asked in class – no one should feel afraid or nervous about coming to school
- ⇒ get involved in school activities that interest you
- ⇒ do your best in all of your schoolwork. Let your talents shine through. Encourage others to also do and be their best.
- ⇒ respect personal space and belongings

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS

Students and staff are responsible to ensure that their conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging. Parents have a corresponding responsibility under section 16.2(a) of the Education Act to help their child meet his/her responsibilities. Whether they are in the school regularly or not, parents have an important role to play. Parents are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that supports a safe and caring learning environment through respectful and welcoming behaviour within the school community.

- ⇒ make sure your child attends school regularly and punctually
- ⇒ pay attention to how you talk about the school, staff, and other students and their families in front of your child
- ⇒ speak respectfully to and about school staff
 - All parties in a conflict situation must recognize and respect the principle of "first contact." This means that the person(s) who have the concern, have a responsibility to begin addressing the concern directly with those persons with whom they have the concern before taking their concern elsewhere.
- ⇒ model kindness
- ⇒ take responsibility for your mistakes
- ⇒ model peaceful problem solving when you have a conflict
- ⇒ make appointments to ensure the person you want to speak with has sufficient time to have a focused conversation
- ⇒ report any problems at school to the teacher as soon as you can
 - Problems are easier to solve when they haven't been going on for a long time.
 - Always start with your child's teacher!

The Student Conduct Policy is developed by our school community, based on input from students, parents, and school staff. It is annually reviewed and revised, if necessary, with staff at the opening meeting in September as well as presented to the School Council for their feedback and input. It is printed in the School Handbook at the front of the student agenda as well as posted on the school website.

Standards of Student Dress

Philosophy:

*In Edmonton Catholic Schools, students are expected to dress in a manner that honors the dignity of the human person, who was created in the image of God, and that supports an inclusive, welcoming, caring, respectful, safe, and Catholic learning environment that promotes the well-being of all. Each school in the Division will have a **Standards of Student Dress** for their community. Understanding that it is not possible to list all the specific types of acceptable and unacceptable student dress, the purpose of establishing **Standards of Student Dress** is to empower students to make appropriate choices*

Students are expected to dress in a manner which is appropriate for the school day or for any school sponsored event. All students shall come to school dressed in a comfortable manner that allows them to be authentically who they are, while also meeting the standards in this document.

*Students who do not meet the **Standards of Student Dress** will be required by the school principal or their designate to meet the standards before participating in school activities. Schools will facilitate the enabling of students to meet the standards in such situations whenever possible.*

Student dress must maintain personal safety and the safety of the school community. Students are not permitted to wear articles of clothing, jewelry or accessories that indicate or suggest membership in or affiliation with any group or organization that does not support a welcoming, caring, respectful, safe, and Catholic learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging.

Underwear/undergarments must not be visible or exposed and covered by clothing at all times. Buttocks and nipples must be covered with opaque fabric and remain so during all activities over the course of the school day.

Students at École St. Cecilia **must** wear:

- Shirts or the equivalent ("tops") with opaque (not able to see through) fabric that covers the front, back, and sides under the arms; including but not limited to t-shirts, sweatshirts, sweaters, tank tops
- Pants or the equivalent ("bottoms"); including but not limited to jeans, leggings, sweatpants, stretch pants, skirts, dresses, shorts
- Shoes or appropriate footwear

NOTE: Courses or activities may require specific attire for safety or curriculum purposes (e.g., CTF, Physical Education, science labs, field trips)

Students at École St. Cecilia **may** wear:

- Headwear that is specifically required for religious observance (i.e., hijab, yarmulke, turban) or for medical reasons in consultation with the principal
- Hats or other headwear that must allow the face to be visible to staff and not interfere with the line of sight of any student or staff. Hoodies must allow the face and ears to be visible to school staff.
 - Students will be required to remove non-religious headwear during prayer, religious celebrations, or statutory observances as a sign of respect during these activities/events
- Clothing with logos or text that is positive in nature, respectful, or implies or encourages healthy lifestyles and choices for children and youth

Students at École St. Cecilia **may not** wear:

- Articles of clothing, jewelry, or accessories that indicate or suggest membership in or affiliation with any group or organization that does not support a welcoming, caring, respectful, safe, and Catholic learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging
- Articles of clothing that discriminates based on age, religion, gender, gender identity/expression, body types, race, ability, and socio-economic status
- Articles of clothing with words or text that depict or imply hate, violence, profanity, drugs/drug use, alcohol use, sexual activity, or criminal activity

Students who have not met the standards, as outlined above, will be addressed in the following manner:

- At the first possible opportunity for a private conversation, the staff member who has identified the issue will speak to the student about the concern in a manner that respects their privacy and dignity. Care will be taken to avoid "shaming" or statements of bias
- The student will be presented with options to bring them into closer alignment with the standards for the remainder of the school day, such as:
 - Wearing another article of their own clothing which they have at school that is in alignment with the standards
 - Contacting a parent or guardian to bring in an article of clothing that is in alignment with the standards
 - Borrowing an article of clothing from a friend that is in alignment with the standards
- Where possible, students should not be required to wear school-owned replacement garments and should never be required to wear specific garments as a disciplinary measure

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Academic honesty is a crucial component of educational programming at all levels. Students are to complete their schoolwork (homework, quizzes, tests, lab reports, etc.) to the best of their ability. We expect them to do this on their own with integrity and honesty.

École St. Cecilia considers the following to be examples of academic dishonesty:

Plagiarism

Copying or representation of another's work as one's own

- copy/paste information from the internet
- let another student copy your work
- copy another student's work
- falsify data, information, or citations
- give a false excuse for missed assessments
- falsely claim to have submitted work

Duplication of Assessment Materials

- with or without the intent of sharing it
- unauthorized use of technology to record, digitize, or photograph any assessment materials

Theft of Assessment Materials

- being in possession of any secured assessment materials

Cheating

- accessing or receiving answers, data, or other information by any means other than those permitted by the teacher

Note: Students who engage in academic dishonesty must redo the work under parental supervision. They will resubmit it to their teacher. Reassessment of the work will be at the discretion of the teacher.

PROGRESS REPORTS

ECSD continues to work toward academic success for every student. To this end, parents can view ongoing reporting of student progress within PowerSchool. This allows parents to track their child's academic growth throughout the school year.

Parents can keep informed about their child's learning progress. Throughout the year teachers will enter students' marks as they assess curricular outcomes. They will also provide assignment information and offer feedback, when needed.

Progress summary reports are available online at the end of January and June. There are two reporting terms each of which include a demonstration of learning:

Note: As part of St. Cecilia School's commitment to supporting meaningful assessment and reporting practices, we are piloting a reporting model that does not use percentage grades. Beginning in the fall of 2026-2027, student achievement will be communicated through an overall Level of Achievement rather than a percentage grade. In addition, report cards will include Levels of Achievement for each curricular learning outcome, providing more detailed information about what students know, understand, and are able to do.

	Dates		Dates
Reporting Term 1	September - January	Student-led Conferences	November 25, 2026
Reporting Term 2	February - June	Student-led Conferences	February 17th, 2027
Final Report Card	Year-End		

Each learning outcome will be assessed using our updated Levels of Achievement, shown below:

Levels of Achievement (LOA)	What This Means for Student Learning	Traditional Percentage Representation (%)
Standard of Excellence (SE)	Your child: - understands learning very well - uses learning in new ways - goes beyond expectations	91-100%
Proficient Standard+ (PR+)	Your child is at the Proficient Standard and is starting to demonstrate areas of excellence.	81-90%
Proficient Standard (PR)	Your child: - understands the learning - uses skills correctly - is meeting expectations	71-80%
Acceptable Standard+ (AS+)	Your child is at the Acceptable Standard and is starting to demonstrate areas of proficiency	61-70%
Acceptable Standard (AS)	Your child: - understands much of the learning - uses skills in familiar situations - is working toward expectations	51-60%
Beginning Standard+ (BE+)	Your child is at the Beginning Standard and is starting to demonstrate areas within the Acceptable Standard.	41-50%
Beginning Standard (BE)	Your child: - is starting to understand the learning - is learning to use new skills - is developing understanding - is beginning to meet expectations	31-40%
Not Yet Meeting the Standard (NYMS)	Your child: - is in the early stages of learning - is working to develop skills and understanding - has not yet met expectations	30% and below

STUDENT RECOGNITION PROGRAM

École St. Cecilia continually strives to honour our legacy of excellence!

There are many ways we recognize our students for their achievements. Some examples include morning announcements, the newsletter, social media platforms, and division publications. The most formal means is through the St. Cecilia Awards Night Gala. This prestigious event celebrates our students' excellence in the areas of academics, the arts, athletics, and community service.

To receive academic honours at École St. Cecilia students need:

- A **Proficient Standard + (PR⁺)** in the following core subjects and Religion:
 - English Language Arts
 - Mathematics
 - Science
 - Social Studies
 - Français (for French Immersion Students)
- And a **Proficient Standard (PR)** in all other subject areas

Please bookmark the following websites for easy access throughout the year:

- St. Cecilia Webpage - stcecilia.ecsd.net
- PowerSchool Parent/Student Portal - powerschool.ecsd.net/public/
- Your child's Google Classrooms
- Your child's teacher's Google Site – if applicable
- Any other websites your child's teachers are using

