

LL# 1079226

JHF-R  
JHF-R-1  
JHF-E-1

## **STUDENTS AT-RISK FOR SUICIDE OR SELF INJURY**

Suicidal and self-injurious behaviour among youth, including thoughts, attempts and completions, is a serious concern in Manitoba and in other parts of Canada. The St. James-Assiniboia School Division is committed to providing a safe and supportive learning environment for all students.

The purpose of this policy is to:

- a) Ensure the safety of all students and staff members
- b) Respond to suicidal and self-injurious behaviour using strategies based on research and best practice evidence.

This policy is organized into three major sections:

1. Prevention
2. Intervention
3. Postvention

Protocols JHF-R - Protocol for Responding to Students At-Risk for Suicide and JHF-R-B1-Protocol for Responding to Students Self Injury, and **JHF-E-1 Suicide Prevention Checklist for Children and Youth** have been developed for responding to students with suicidal/self-injurious behaviours.

### **Prevention**

The prevention component consists of:

- Enhancing protective factors in supporting positive mental health;
- Promoting intentional positive caring relationships between all staff members and students;
- Increasing suicide prevention awareness by requiring principals/vice principals to annually review JHF-R - Protocol for Responding to Students At-Risk for Suicide and JHF-R-1 - Protocol for Responding to Students Self Injury and JHF-E-1 Suicide Prevention Checklist for Children and Youth, with all staff members;
- Supporting staff members' professional development opportunities regarding suicide and self-harm;
- Delineation of definitions and processes to respond and to support students; Forming a Designated Team as per the divisional protocols;
- Minimizing contagion effects.

### **Intervention**

The intervention component consists of:

- Educating all staff members regarding how to respond to a student-at-risk for suicide and/or self-injury, as per the Division protocol;
- Establishing a process for intervening with students-at-risk for suicide and/or self-injury by the Designated Team;
- Providing direct intervention and referral services for affected students and their parents/guardians.

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**Postvention**

The postvention component consists of:

- Assessing the need for and implementing appropriate postvention activities and services as required;
- Providing appropriate support for reducing distress in students, parents and staff members.

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