



Title: **EXCURSIONS**

Adopted: December 4, 2012  
Revised: November 1, 2016, January 2019  
Reviewed: February 2022

Authority: Education Act: Section 171 (28)  
OPHEA guidelines  
Occupational Health and Safety Act  
Ontario School Board Insurance Exchange

Related: Procedure OP-#6 – Excursions

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## **POLICY**

It is the policy of the Bloorview School Authority that well planned learning experiences in the world beyond the classroom be recognized as valuable and encouraged and that excursions should be an integral part of every student's program of studies.

In addition, the Board is committed to the full and equitable inclusion of all students in safe, curriculum-based excursions.

## **DEFINITION**

An excursion is defined as any approved, school-organized educational activity involving students that takes place off school property.

## **PRINCIPLES**

1. Excursions shall receive the same degree of preparation and follow-up as other classroom activities.
2. The excursion shall have an educational purpose with curricular relevance that is clearly identified by staff for students and their parents/guardians.
3. Student safety shall be the priority in the planning and implementation of all excursions.

4. The written informed consent of custodial parents/guardians shall be obtained for all excursions.
5. All excursions will be accessible to students with special needs.
6. When planning an excursion, every reasonable effort shall be made to be aware of the religious observances of the staff, students and community members who may be involved in the excursion or impacted in some way.
7. Every effort shall be made to ensure that the excursion is appropriate to the age, maturity, experience, health, skill, physical abilities, emotional capabilities and exceptionalities of the participants. As far as possible, the excursion shall be appropriate to the cultural backgrounds and experiences of all students.
8. Excursion planning shall include careful consideration and preparation in relation to the following: funding, training, travel, supervision, risk management, contingency planning and evaluation.
9. The expectation is that all students will participate in all excursions. In the event that a student cannot participate, an appropriate program shall be planned.
10. Reasonable attempts will be made to ensure that no student shall be prevented from participating on an excursion through inability to pay.
11. The Principal shall ensure that a sufficient number of teachers and adult supervisors accompany students on excursions
12. Since an excursion is deemed to be a school-related activity, all school rules in the code of conduct will apply to students, staff and volunteers for the duration of the excursion and in those circumstances that have an impact on the school climate.
13. In monitoring excursions, Bloorview School and its agenda shall comply with all statutory duties, including the duty to provide instruction and adequate accommodation for students and ensure that every activity is conducted in accordance with the *Education Act* and related regulations.