

BLOOD SPILLS

POLICY

Rationale:

Standard hygiene precautions and the correct management of blood spills and other body fluids minimise the risks of transmission of infectious diseases including bacterial and viral infections.

Aims:

To ensure safe practices in response to bleeding students, blood spills and other body fluids.

Implementation:

- All staff at our school will be trained in standard infection control procedures and first aid.
- Charts displaying standard infection controls will be prominently displayed in appropriate places around the school.
- The school will provide adequate first aid equipment including protective barriers such as disposable gloves, antiseptics, and disposable Expired Air Resuscitation face masks.
- The school will provide an adequate first aid room and warm water, pump action antiseptic soap, disinfectant (eg: Milton™), detergents, rubber gloves, disposable latex gloves and paper towel, plastic sealable garbage bags.
- All blood or body fluid spills will be attended to by a staff member immediately.
- All children who are bleeding must be treated in the first aid room, unless inappropriate to do so.
- The 'blood rule' in sports and recess/lunch times will be adhered to.
- All blood or body fluid spills to be completely cleaned according to the following standard infection control procedures:
 - treating officer to cover any own cuts or abrasions with waterproof dressings. Put on single use waterproof gloves
 - use paper towels to mop up the blood spill and dispose of them into a plastic bag
 - wash area with warm water and detergent, rinse and dry. Steam clean carpets if necessary.
 - place gloves into plastic bag
 - wash hands in warm soapy water, rinse and dry thoroughly
 - if re-usable items/utensils are used rinse with cold water, wash in warm water with disinfectant, rinse in hot water and dry.
- All wounds will be flushed in warm water, washed in soapy warm water, dried and dressed and covered using a waterproof dressing. Treating staff will wear gloves, wash hands afterwards and dispose of gloves and any other materials in sealed plastic bags placed in biohazard dispensers.
- Children will not be allowed to remain in, or return to normal school activities with exposed blood or body fluids.
- The school will provide children with alternative clothing should their garments be infected with blood or body fluids.
- All parents will be made aware if their child has been treated in the first aid room, or if their child has been involved with another bleeding child.
- The school will carry out routine inspections of the school grounds for dangerous objects such as discarded syringes, and will have a process in place for their removal and disposal.

Evaluation:

Policy to be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review process

This policy was last ratified by School Council on....

June 2014