

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

POLICY

Rationale:

- Schools are expected to be safe and healthy places for staff and students to enjoy. Students with infectious diseases need to be managed in a manner that protects their privacy, maintains their health and dignity, and ensures the health and safety of all others.

Aims:

- To provide a safe and healthy workplace for all

Implementation:

- Whilst it is not uncommon for children to attend schools with minor ailments or injuries, there are a number of identified infectious diseases that require specific considerations including the exclusion of students from school.
- The ‘Schedule 7 Minimum Period of Exclusion from Primary Schools and Children's Services Centres for Infectious Diseases Cases and Contacts (Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009)’ [School exclusion table](#) outlines the minimum period of exclusion from schools for infectious diseases cases and any person who has been in contact with the infected person.
- The regulations require the parent/guardian to inform the principal as soon as practicable if the child is infected with any of the diseases listed in the table, or has been in contact with an infected person.
- Patients or contacts shall be prevented from attending school unless they comply with the conditions prescribed in the table.
- It should be noted that during outbreaks of diseases prescribed in the table, and when directed to do so by the Secretary, principals are to direct parents/guardians of students who are not immunised against a Vaccine Preventable Disease to keep their children at home until the Secretary advises that they may resume school.
- All staff will be provided with training relating to infectious and blood-borne diseases, the minimisation of risk, and the management of blood and body fluid spills.
- All students will be provided with age appropriate information relating to infectious diseases.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

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

March 2019