

HIV/AIDS and Infectious Diseases Policy

HPP School, January 2016

This policy seeks to promote effective education, prevention and care relating to the HIV/AIDS epidemic and the control of other infectious diseases within HPP School.

HIV / AIDS

When an injury occurs the transfer of the HIV disease is possible only from blood or blood containing secretions from an HIV positive person coming into direct contact with an open wound of another person. The likelihood of this ever occurring is extremely small. However, the correct handling of blood, open wounds, grazes and infected skin lesions is essential. The basic principle of the universal protective measure is that one cannot distinguish between and HIV positive and a healthy child, and therefore to prevent the spread of blood borne diseases, including HIV, sound First Aid practices have to be instituted in the Centre.

EDUCATION Educators and assistants will be up to date with the current AIDS education programme. Parents will be informed of this policy.

DISCLOSURE. Disclosure of a person's HIV/AIDS status is not legally enforceable. However, support would be given to the parent of the infected child should they choose to inform the Principal or teacher at HPP school of their child's status. Testing for HIV/AIDS at HPP School is strictly prohibited.

CONFIDENTIALITY. The principal, all teachers and assistants of HPP School are not entitled to inform anyone else of an infected child's condition. The information may only be divulged after receiving written consent from the child's parents.

NON-DISCRIMINATION. There will be no discrimination against any infected child. The infected child will receive all aspects of learning. Any special measures are either medically indicated or in the best interest of the child.

ATTENDANCE. Infected children should attend school for as long as they are able to function effectively. Children who suffer neurological damage or HIV/AIDS related behavioural changes may be referred to an alternative institution.

AIDS / HIV PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

- HPP School will institute sound First Aid practices and protective management plan to prevent the spread of HIV disease.
- When changing nappies, use latex gloves.
- If any bleeding occurs due to an injury, latex gloves will be used and the wound will be cleaned and covered afterwards with the appropriate non-porous dressing.
- Skin exposed to blood should be washed immediately.
- If blood contaminates a surface, that surface should be cleaned with a fresh bleach solution (1:100 bleach to water)
- Blood contaminated clothing should be removed and suitably placed in a sealed plastic bag.
- Instruments contaminated with blood will be washed in the same bleach solution.
- Any incident relating to blood being exposed to be recorded in incident book.

OTHER INFECTIOUS CONDITIONS

Children with infectious conditions are required to stay at home. Children will be excluded from school if their illness poses a risk to others and they will only be re-admitted until a Doctor determines them sufficiently well. Children will be excluded if:

- The illness prevents them from participating in normal activities;
- The illness requires more care than the staff are able to provide without neglecting the needs of the other children in the group;
- The child at school poses a risk to others with whom the child may come into contact;
- Uncontrolled diarrhea (more than 3 loose stools in a 3-hour period);
- Vomiting more than once in a 3 hour period;
- Mouth sores;
- A skin rash with fever;
- Conjunctivitis with a discharge;
- Scabies or head lice;
- Any contagious diseases (e.g. TB, mumps, impetigo, hepatitis A, chickenpox, measles, whooping cough, German measles, shingles, strep throat, herpes);
- A fever over 38 degrees.

Only after the child with the infectious condition has seen a doctor and provides a doctor's certificate will they be allowed back to school.