

	Carlton Gardens Primary School Infectious Diseases	Authorisation May 2015 Review 2018
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Purpose:

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.

Aim:

- To provide a safe and healthy workplace for all.
- To provide channels of reporting diseases and conditions to the school community that are potentially life threatening or may cause harm to others.

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. This policy covers all known infectious diseases including very serious and life threatening infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis B.
- The current school exclusion table (Appendix 1) outlines the minimum period of exclusion from schools for infectious diseases cases and contacts as prescribed under regulations 13 and 14 of the Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 2001 – Schedule 6. Schools must be aware of and abide by the exclusion requirements.
- 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. It should be noted that in cases of diphtheria, typhoid and paratyphoid fever, exclusion and determination of recovery will be matters for the municipal medical officer of health.
- Information concerning the infectious disease suffered by any student or staff member will be treated as confidential subject to the parent(s)/guardian or staff member allowing the communication of the information in writing to the Principal in order to ensure a safe working environment as required by law.
- A parent(s) of a student having a life threatening infectious disease such as HIV/AIDS or Hepatitis B, will be expected to cooperate with the school in planning and providing suitable support services for the student.
- It will remain the prime responsibility of the parent whose child is enrolled in the school and who suffers from a life threatening infectious disease, to educate and require the child to behave and respond in the school context in such a way that the risk of infecting others is prevented.
- Students with an infectious disease 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 principals are to direct parents/guardians of students who are not immunised to keep their children at home for the recommended period.
- Apart from observing the proper preventative measures for students/staff known to have an infectious disease, the students/staff having the infectious disease will be treated in the same manner as all other members in the school community.

Evaluation

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