



## **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:**

- The school will provide adequate first aid equipment including protective barriers such as disposable gloves and disposable Expired Air Resuscitation face masks.
- The school will provide an adequate first aid room with sink and warm water, pump action soap, disinfectant (e.g. MiltonTM) disposable latex gloves and paper towel, plastic garbage bags and sharps dispensers.
- All blood or body fluid spills will be attended to by a staff member as soon as practical.
- All children who are bleeding will be treated in the first aid room, unless inappropriate to do so.
- 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 or bleach, rinse and dry.
  - Place gloves into plastic bag
  - Seal bag and dispose of it in an appropriate manner
  - 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. Staff will wear gloves, wash hands afterwards and dispose of gloves and any other materials in sealed plastic bags.
- 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 where possible or arrange parents to provide clothes 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.

### **Evaluation:**

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's four year policy review cycle. (Ratified: Dec 2012)