

NORTHLAND SCHOOL

Health and Safety Procedures Communicable Diseases



Rationale

Northland School is committed to a positive approach in dealing with any serious communicable disease. It is the responsibility of the Board to provide a healthy and safe working and learning environment. This includes protection from those carrying communicable diseases.

Guidelines

Health promotion

- The school will have standard safety and hygiene procedures to control infection. All staff should be fully aware of the procedures, and training should be provided where necessary.
- Staff will be kept informed of current practices to prevent the spread of communicable disease within the school community.
- Staff will be adequately trained and resourced to provide health education programmes that meet Ministry of Education curriculum requirements to students on issues related to communicable diseases.

Comment [JE1]: Suggested wording change

Immunisation promotion

- Staff will be encouraged to be immunised against hepatitis B and seasonal influenza. The Board of Trustees will fund payment of vaccinations for seasonal influenza.
- Parents and caregivers will be asked for a copy of the child's immunisation certificate on enrolment. The will be kept on the child's file and entered into the school's Student Management System (SMS). If no certificate is provided this will be noted in the SMS.

Comment [JE2]: New sentence to reflect current practice.

Comment [JE3]: This section is incorrect. It should read: Parents and caregivers will be asked for a copy of the child's immunisation certificate. This will be kept on the child's file and entered into the school's Student Management System (SMS). If no certificate is available this will be noted in the SMS.

Infection control

- The board and staff will follow directions from the Ministry of Health, the local Medical Officer of Health or their approved designates on closing or opening the school in the event of a pandemic.

Privacy and freedom from discrimination

- While disclosure of medical information is voluntary, the board encourages parents to inform the principal if their child has a communicable disease. With the approval of parents, the principal may discuss this disclosure with relevant staff, in order for them to be able to take any necessary steps to support the child's health and wellbeing.
- No person will be discriminated on grounds of health status.
- Health information will be stored and used according to the principles of the Privacy Act 1993.
- Procedures are in place for the disposal of any personal health information.