

Blood Spills



Policy

Rationale:

Standard hygiene precautions and the correct management of blood spills and open wounds minimise the risks of transmission of infectious diseases including bacterial and viral infections.

Aims:

To provide a College environment that uses safe practices in response to blood spills and open wounds.

Implementation:

- A sufficient number of staff at our College will be trained in standard infection control procedures and first aid
- Charts displaying standard infection controls will be displayed in appropriate places around the College
- The College will provide adequate first aid equipment including protective barriers such as disposable gloves, antiseptics, and disposable Expired Air Resuscitation face masks
- The College will provide an adequate first aid room with warm water, pump action antiseptic soap, disinfectant (eg: MiltonTM), detergents, rubber gloves, disposable nitrile gloves and paper towel, appropriate hazardous waste disposal bags and sharps dispensers
- All blood or open wounds will be attended to by a staff member immediately and referred to the nurse
- All children who are bleeding must be treated in the first aid room, unless inappropriate to do so
- All wounds will be treated, dressed and covered, unless inappropriate to do so. Students with uncovered wounds or bleeding will be sent home
- The 'blood rule' in sports and recess/lunch times will be adhered to
- Children will not be allowed to remain in, or return to normal activities with exposed blood / body fluids
- The College will provide, where possible, students with alternative clothing if their garments be infected with blood / body fluids
- All blood spills will be completely cleaned according to the following standard infection control procedures:
 - Put on 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, rinse and dry. Advise facilities manager. Steam clean carpets if necessary.
 - Place gloves into plastic bag
 - Seal bag and place in appropriate hazardous waste disposal bag (disposed of in accordance with regulations
 - Wash hands in warm soapy water 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 parents will be made aware if their child has been in physical contact with another child who was bleeding if the nurse is concerned
- Dangerous objects such as discarded syringes will be disposed of in accordance to DET requirements (into the sharps container in the Health Centre)

References:

ARC Guidelines 9.1 Trauma – 9.1.1 and 10 Education 10.3 Cross infection and Manikin Disinfection

Evaluation:

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

This policy was last ratified by School Council in March 2018

Next review March 2021