



Section C: Students

Students with Blood Borne Pathogens

Date: **2013 10 22**

Administrative Procedures

The St. Clair Catholic District School Board will be compassionate when dealing with students infected with a blood borne pathogen. The St. Clair Catholic District School Board recognizes its responsibility to protect the health and well-being of all students while maintaining the privacy and dignity of students infected with a blood borne pathogen.

1. Responsibilities

- 1.1 Principals and supervisors may obtain training, direction or consultation from a medical health care provider, as appropriate for a specific individual.
- 1.2 Principals and Supervisors are responsible for the review of appropriate procedures with staff on a regular basis. Principals and Supervisors shall ensure staff receive training as required.
- 1.3 The Principal, under the duties outlined in the *Education Act* and the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*, must report to the Medical Officer of Health the name of any student known to have blood borne pathogens.

2. Expectations

- 2.1 The Joint Health and Safety Committee will provide input into training and education programs for all staff in addressing blood borne pathogens.
- 2.2 Each school and facility has protective gloves and first aid supplies that are replenished as necessary.
- 2.3 Care must be taken to minimize contact with bodily fluids. It is recommended that all staff follow routine practice guidelines (Appendix A) which include hand hygiene and the use of gloves in the presence of bodily fluids. An individual's best protection

against blood borne pathogens is to assume that the entire population is infected and follow proper procedures. By treating all individuals equally, the privacy of those individuals infected will be maintained.

- 2.4 All blood/bodily fluid spills will be cleaned and disinfected as outlined in the cleaning guidelines established by Facility Services.
- 2.5 It is recommended that all staff follow routine practices in the administration of first aid procedures.
- 2.6 Students are not required to disclose their health status to St. Clair Catholic District School Board personnel.
- 2.7 The identity of a student with a blood borne pathogen shall be protected but may be disclosed after consultation with, and the consent of the parent/guardian or the student, if an adult, or at the direction of the Medical Officer of Health.
- 2.8 Students with a blood borne pathogen have the right to attend regular classes unless the risk to the student or other students, as determined by the Superintendent of Education, require alternative instruction. The Superintendent of Education in consultation with the Medical Officer of Health will make decisions regarding alternative forms of instruction on an individual basis.
- 2.9 Information about blood borne pathogens will be provided to all students, as required by the curriculum, in accordance with Ministry of Education guidelines.

3. Additional Information

- 3.1 The St. Clair Catholic District School Board is committed to the principles of equity and inclusive education, consistent with our Catholic teachings, which value and promote human rights and social justice in all Board policies, programs, guidelines, operations and practices.

4. Definitions:

Blood Borne Pathogens:

Bodily fluids that carry blood borne infections/diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, or Hepatitis B, C, or D.

Bodily Fluids:

A term applied to blood, urine, vomit, sputum and drainage from any bodily orifice or wound. Feces, while not bodily fluids in themselves, are moistened by bodily fluids and are considered

under this definition. Bodily fluids that carry blood borne infections/diseases such as HIV/AIDS, or Hepatitis B, C, or D include blood, semen, vaginal fluids and breast milk.

First Aid Procedures:

Refer to any procedures involving the treatment of an injured person in an emergency, before full medical care can be obtained.

Routine Practices:

Refer to those practices used with blood and certain bodily fluids. Blood borne infections require the use of routine practices such as hand hygiene and wearing gloves.