

# BLOOD SPILLS & OTHER BODY FLUIDS

## POLICY

### **Rationale:**

Alphington Primary School seeks to maintain a healthy and safe environment for staff and students. 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.

### **Aim:**

- To ensure safe practices in response to exposure to bleeding, blood spills and other body fluids.

### **Implementation:**

1. All staff at our school will be trained in standard infection control procedures and first aid.
2. Charts displaying standard infection controls will be prominently displayed in the first aid room.
3. The school provides adequate first aid equipment including a blood spill kit.
4. The school will provide an adequate first aid room with warm water, pump action antiseptic soap, disinfectant (eg: Milton™), detergents, rubber gloves, disposable latex gloves and paper towel, plastic sealable garbage bags and sharps and bio-hazards dispensers.
5. All blood and other body fluid spills will be attended to by a staff member as soon as practicable.
6. All such spills will be treated as though the fluid is potentially infectious.
7. All children who are bleeding must be treated in the first aid room, unless inappropriate to do so.
8. The 'blood rule' in sports and recess/lunch times will be adhered to.
9. All blood or body fluid spills to be responded to in compliance with the Department's Policy.

### **See Appendix i**

10. Children will not be allowed to remain in, or return to normal school activities with exposed blood or body fluids. This includes dry blood.
11. Students with blood stained clothes are required to change their clothing. The school will provide alternative garments if practicable and parents will be contacted.
12. All parents will be made aware if their child has made contact with a bleeding child.
13. The school will carry out routine inspections of the school grounds for dangerous objects such as discarded syringes, and will have a process in place for their removal and disposal.

### **Evaluation:**

Policy to be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review process.

This policy was last ratified by School Council on....

October 2014

## Appendix i

### Managing blood and body fluid spills

Blood spills should be treated as if the blood is potentially infectious.

This table describes how schools clean blood spills.

See: Infectious Diseases within [Related policies](#)

Step	Action
1	Put on single-use gloves and avoid direct contact with blood or other fluids. Note: Cover any cuts and abrasions on hands with a waterproof dressing.
2	Use paper towels to mop up the spill. Dispose of the paper towels in an appropriate bio hazard container.
3	Wash the area with warm water and detergent, then rinse and dry the area. Note: Take care not to splash excessively.
4	Remove gloves and place them in an appropriate bio hazard container.
5	Wash hands in warm soapy water and dry thoroughly.
6	If re-usable items were used such as scissors or tweezers, then an assessment must take place to consider how the item was used and determine the appropriate decontamination method. Example: If an item has been biologically contaminated then an alcohol swab is used for decontamination. For further advice on decontamination contact the Department's OHS Advisory Service on 1300 074 715.

### Treating bleeding students

This table describes how schools treat students who are bleeding.

Step	Action
1	Avoid contact with the blood while: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• comforting the student</li><li>• moving them to safety if required.</li></ul>
2	Put on single-use gloves.
3	Flush the wound using warm water.
4	Wash the wound using warm water and soap.
5	Pat dry the wound and apply a waterproof dressing ensuring the wound is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• covered</li><li>• no longer bleeding.</li></ul>
6	Remove any linen stained with blood or body fluids. Place them in leak-proof plastic bags until they can be cleaned by a commercial laundry or linen cleaning service.
7	Remove gloves and place them in an appropriate bio hazard container.
8	Wash hands in warm soapy water and dry thoroughly.

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/health/Pages/blood.aspx>