



HIV / AIDS and Contagious diseases

DEFINITION OF HIV & AIDS :

Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) is a chronic, potentially life-threatening condition caused by the **Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)**. By damaging your immune system, **HIV** interferes with your body's ability to fight the organisms that cause disease.

FACTS :

- **HIV / AIDS** is a sexually transmitted infection.
- **HIV / AIDS** cannot be transmitted through normal daily contact between people.
- **HIV / AIDS** cannot be transmitted through spit, sweat, tears, urine, breathing fluid, handshakes, swimming water, bathing water, toilet usage, food or drinking water.
- The virus can only be transmitted through blood, open wounds, semen, vaginal fluids and mother's milk.
- **THE NUMBER OF LEARNERS AND TEACHERS WITH HIV / AIDS** will increasingly form part of school systems due to the increased appearance of HIV / AIDS infection.
- **LEARNERS WITH HIV / AIDS** have the right to full education as stipulated in the South African School Act.
- **TEACHERS WITH HIV / AIDS** have the right to teach as stipulated in the South African School Act.

PRINCIPALS :

- **NO DISCRIMINATION AGAINST** any learner or teacher with HIV / AIDS will be allowed as stipulated in the South African School Act.
- Learners will, as part of their curriculum be informed about all aspects of HIV / AIDS.
- Parents are mainly responsible for educating their children about the aspects of HIV / AIDS and they should teach their children not to discriminate against people with HIV / AIDS.
- **NO LEARNER OR TEACHER IS OBLIGATED** to disclose their HIV / AIDS status BUT disclosing the status to the school will be welcomed.
- **NO LEARNER OR TEACHER will be requested** to be tested for HIV / AIDS before enrollment or appointment.
- **NO LEARNER OR TEACHER will be requested to be tested for HIV / AIDS** on a yearly basis.
- The HIV / AIDS status of staff members and / or learners will be kept confidential.
- **LEARNERS AND TEACHERS WITH HIV / AIDS** must adhere to the school's code of conduct with no exceptions.
- **LEARNERS with HIV / AIDS** have to take part in all daily activities at school.
- **LEARNERS with HIV / AIDS** have to adhere to all policies of the school including policies on absenteeism and code of conduct.
- Standard precautions for management, care and safety with regards to HIV / AIDS will apply.
- All open wounds, body fluids and blood at any incident or accident have to be treated as if the patient is possibly HIV / AIDS infected.



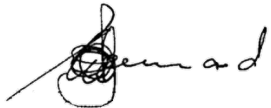
SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AND MEASUREMENTS :

- Open wounds, blood and bodily fluids must be handled with surgical or household gloves.
- Every classroom has to keep one pair of surgical or household gloves.
- Skin, scratches or wounds that touched blood must be washed with water and disinfectant immediately.
- Disinfectants include Milton, 2% glutaraldehyde, organic iodine or 70% alcohol for example Ethyl alcohol or Isopropyl alcohol.
- Blood or blood spatter on skin or any area must also be disinfected immediately.
- Any equipment, tools or materials used in the treatment process have to be disinfected and / or burned immediately afterwards.
- First aid bags with all necessary equipment including two pairs of surgical or household gloves must be available at critical points at all times.
- First aid bags with all necessary equipment including two pairs of surgical or household gloves must be available at sport events and outings.
- Staff on playground duty will treat minor accidents such as scratches and nose bleeds but will call in the staff trained in first aid who will be responsible for treating serious injuries. (Refer policy on emergencies, health and safety)

OTHER CONTAGIOUS DISEASES:

- Measles, Chickenpox, German measles, Whooping cough, Scarlet fever, TB, Flue and Mumps are considered contagious diseases.
- Children with any of the above mentioned contagious diseases are expected to remain at home until a professional doctor cleared them as safe to return, since these diseases present as a big health risk to all teachers and children at school and even more so those with HIV / AIDS.

SIGNED AND CONFIRMED

		
Mrs. M L Stander	Mrs. S van Zyl	Mr. T Barnard
Principal / Owner	Vice Principal	Governing Body