

**HIV / AIDS / OTHER BLOOD-BORNE and Covid
VIRUSES PROCEDURE.****RATIONALE**

The School Board has established a Safe School Policy.

Good practice routines are essential for administering first aid to any person who is bleeding. The established practice is to recognize that there is potential for the person administering first aid to become infected by a blood-borne virus or airborne virus e.g. HIV/Aids/ Hepatitis B and C and Covid viruses. Therefore, in dealing with any injury or illness people should be treated as if they have a blood-borne or air-borne virus.

New Zealand law is clear

- A child's health status should not affect their right to an education.
- Children have a right to privacy.

GUIDELINES

These are the guidelines for infection control of HIV/AIDS and Covid viruses in schools¹.

1. Before treating a child, who is bleeding, make sure you cover any cuts or abrasions with a water-proof dressing. Do ask the child if they have been exposed to anyone who has contracted covid or ask questions related to covid symptoms they are presenting with (sore throat, loss of smell and taste, cough or flu like symptoms). This would ensure we have the correct gear to apply when treating the child (Face mask and sterile gown – if available).
2. If the individual presents with "Covid" symptoms of any kind, continue with the procedure and at the end advise student/family to see their General Practitioner. The child must have a "face mask" on prior to leaving the clinic.
3. You must inform any duty manager or senior management that a child has presented with secondary Covid symptoms. This is to ensure safety in our school community. If the child has "tested positive" for Covid, we can track and trace who was involved at the school.
4. Wear gloves and face mask (if available) for all procedures and ensure hand sanitation is done before and after treatment (hand sanitizer is available in all first aid kits & in visible areas in the school).
5. Don't delay treatment of a child who is bleeding, under any circumstances because gloves are not immediately available. Use an absorbent barrier such as a towel, paper towel, handkerchief etc. for an actively bleeding child.
6. Dispose of used gloves, soiled dressings, sanitary towels, tissues, etc., in a place where they will not be handled, e.g. in bags which are burnt or buried.
7. Wipe clean and then sterilize all surfaces and instruments contaminated with blood. Make sure you use an effective disinfectant, e.g. (one volume of household bleach to nine volumes of cold water).
8. Soak surfaces for 20 minutes and then wipe dry. Prepare a fresh solution immediately before you want to use it.
9. Wash hands thoroughly when you have finished. Hand washing is usually adequate for non-blood secretions, but the above precautions (i.e. gloves, etc.) can also be used.
10. Make sure that first-aid kits include disposable gloves, disposable wipes or towels, plastic bags for contaminated waste, a skin disinfectant and a bleach solution (or hypochlorite solution/or granules) with instructions for use.

This procedure was issued by the Principal May 2021.

This procedure will be reviewed on / before May 2024.

PRINCIPAL

27 May 2021
DATE