



## HEALTH POLICY

### **Vaccinations:**

A copy of each child's vaccination history is required for school records.

Vaccinations are not compulsory, although immunization against the Hepatitis B virus is advised.

The school may arrange for vaccinations during school hours, this optional facility will be available to all children and their immediate families.

### **Infectious conditions:**

Children with infectious conditions are required to stay at home.

Infectious conditions include, but are not limited to: chicken pox, mumps, head lice, influenza, rubella, herpes simplex and conjunctivitis.

At the educator's discretion, parents may be asked to keep children with a raised temperature, bad coughs, infectious snotty nose or colds at home.

Parents will be advised should educators notice symptoms of any illness.

### **Medication:**

In keeping with the regulations stipulated by the Department of Social Department, the school will only administer medication for the following chronic conditions or in the case of emergencies:

- Asthma
- Diabetes
- Cases of anaphylactic shock

This needs to be signed in and handed in at the office. Under NO circumstances may ANY other medication be brought to school or left in a child's bag.

The school does not assume responsibility if medication is left in a child's bag and the staff have not been informed.

### **Staff medical training:**

Each member of staff has been trained in First Aid and CPR and completed a course in HIV awareness and Universal Precautions.

### **HIV/AIDS:**

No child may be denied the right to admission or continued attendance at the school on account of their HIV/AIDS status or perceived status.

No child (or guardian on behalf of child) is compelled to disclose their HIV/AIDS status to the school.

Voluntary disclosure will be welcomed and an enabling environment cultivated. Confidentiality is ensured and discrimination will not be tolerated.

**HIV is not spread by casual contact like: hugging, kissing or touching an infected person or by contact with urine, sputum or faeces** (unless they are blood contaminated).



**Hygiene:**

Washing of hands is compulsory after visiting the toilet.

Each child should have a spare change of clothes at school.

It is advisable to tie up long hair as it reduces the risk of head lice.

**Sun protection:**

All children are required to wear a sun hat outdoors; children who refuse will be required to sit in the shade.

Parents are requested to apply sunscreen at home before bringing children to school.

**Emergencies:**

Contact details for each child's family doctor must be submitted for school records.

In case of a medical emergency, the parent/guardian and/or family doctor will be contacted.

**UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS:**

- Broken skin, open sores and cuts must be covered with waterproof dressings.
- If bleeding occurs from an accident or bleeding nose, do not move the patient until the bleeding stops. Treat on site to avoid moving the blood spill.
- Children must be taught never to touch other people's blood or body fluids.
- If someone has to stop the bleeding, rubber gloves must be worn. Where possible, get the injured person to apply pressure onto their own wound.
- Spilt blood must be soaked up with absorbent material. The blood area must be cleaned with a household bleach solution, followed by normal cleaning procedures. If mops and cloths are used, they must be boiled and disinfected.
- All things touched by blood must be placed in plastic bags, tied securely and placed in the refuse bin. If it is clothing, it must be sent home in plastic bags and the routine explained to parent/caregiver.
- Wash hands regularly with soap and water as part of normal hygiene.