

# Infectious Diseases Policy

## Brighton Primary School

### 1542

#### **Purpose**

To help prevent and control the transmission of infectious diseases in schools, and to promote health within the school community.

#### **Policy**

Schools have a legal responsibility to help manage infectious diseases in their facilities.

Schools also have an important role to play in supporting the prevention and control of transmission of infectious diseases through:

- abiding by legislated requirements for school exclusion, infectious disease notification and immunisation status recording
- supporting the personal hygiene routines of students, for example, provision of hand hygiene facilities
- ensuring procedures are in place to safely manage the handling of spills of blood and other body fluids or substances.

**Note:** Primary responsibility for the prevention and control of infectious diseases lies with individuals, families and public health authorities. Schools are not expected to provide expert advice or treat students, which is the role of medical practitioners and health authorities as appropriate.

#### **Implementation**

1. If a child is diagnosed with a vaccine preventable infectious condition, the parent must provide a medical certificate to state the diagnosis and the exclusion period required from school. This must be dated and signed by the treating doctor.
2. The parent is to notify the school nurse when the diagnosis is made.
3. The school nurse must notify persons in the school community who may be at risk of infection and ensure guidelines of exclusion are adhered to.

**Related Policies:** [Health Care Needs](#)

#### **For more information:**

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

#### **Exclusion Information:**

<https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/school-exclusion/exclusion-periods-role-of-schools-and-child-care-services>

This policy was last ratified by School Council in November 2018

To be reviewed in 2021