

PEACE WAPITI PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION NO. 76

POLICY IHCF – Communicable Diseases

Student health is first and foremost. If a student is excluded from school activities, it will be in accordance with the guidelines established by Alberta Health and Wellness.

PURPOSE

To support the school community and foster a positive and healthy school environment where everyone is treated with equality, dignity and respect.

BACKGROUND

Communicable diseases are diseases which can be spread to others. There are two types – Viral and Bacterial. Some are more serious than others. Communicable diseases can be spread in different ways depending on the particular disease (direct contact, air borne, water/food, blood, body fluids.) Many are reportable to the local Public Health Nurse/Medical Officer of Health.

GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES

1. If a student has a common disease, follow the Quick Reference Guide to Common Diseases. (See Exhibit 1.)
2. Notifiable diseases are monitored and controlled by the Communicable Disease Regulation under the Public Health Act. (See Exhibit 2.)
3. If a student is ill with fever, rash, cough, vomiting or diarrhea or is generally unwell:
 - a) the student will be isolated from the general student population; and
 - b) the school principal shall inform the parents and request that the student be excluded from school until he/she has consulted with a health care provider or the student is better.
4. The identity of a student infected with a communicable disease shall be protected.
5. Everyone (volunteers, students and staff) must use hygienic practices in handling blood and body fluids. (See Exhibit 3.)
6. The Policy Review Committee shall review this policy annually to reflect new medical information as it becomes available,

REFERENCES

Cross References: links to

[Exhibit 1 – Quick Reference Guide to Common Diseases](#)

[Exhibit 2 – Notifiable Disease List](#)

[Exhibit 3 – Hygienic Practices](#)

Legal Reference: Public Health Act

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