

Communicable Disease

Background

The Division is committed to assisting students and staff members who are diagnosed as having a communicable disease. The well-being and rights of students and staff members shall be duly considered in all educational and work environments in accordance with provincial Human Rights legislation and this administrative procedure.

Procedures

In dealing with cases of communicable diseases, the following procedures are supplementary to those actions required by Section 231 of the Education Act and Section 2 of the Public Health Act.

1. Staff Members

- 1.1 Upon receipt of a medical diagnosis that a staff member has an infectious communicable disease, the Director shall consult with and follow the advice of the Board's medical advisor and the Medical Health Officer. The Medical Health Officer shall be requested to consult with the staff member and the attending physician.
- 1.2 Dissemination of information regarding the infected staff member shall be restricted to those who need to know, as determined by the Director, in consultation with the Medical Health Officer and the patient's attending physician. The staff member's health information will be treated in confidence and not shared without the consultation with, and knowledge of the staff member.
- 1.3 An infectious staff member shall not be prevented from working for the Division except on the recommendation of the Director, following consultation with the Medical Health Officer and the staff member's physician.
- 1.4 Where an infected staff member is excluded from their usual place of employment, every attempt shall be made to provide alternate employment. Decisions regarding appropriate settings shall be made on case-by-case basis.

2. Students

- 2.1 Upon receipt of a medical diagnosis that a student who is enrolled or seeking enrolment in the school system has a communicable disease or is infected, the Director shall consult with and follow the advice of the Medical Health Officer of Health. The Medical Health Officer shall be requested to consult with the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) and the attending physician.
- 2.2 Dissemination of information regarding the infected student shall be restricted to those who need to know, as determined by the Director, in consultation

with the Medical Health Officer and the student's attending physician. The student's health information will be treated in confidence and not shared without the consultation with and knowledge of the student's parent or guardian.

- 2.3 An infected student shall not be excluded from the regular educational program except on the recommendation of the Director following consultation with the Medical Health Officer and the student's attending physician.
- 2.4 Where an infected student is excluded from school, every attempt shall be made to provide an alternate educational program. Decisions regarding appropriate educational settings shall be made on a case-by-case basis.

Reference: Section 85, 231, Education Act
Section 2, Public Health Act

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