

## B - COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROCEDURE

*Policy: Communicable Disease occurs when infections are transmitted from person to person. Should Public Health in Consultation with School Leaders feel the lives of individuals in the school are at risk from a communicable disease best practise may require the school to close until health safety can be established.*

1. Definition: A communicable disease is a disease that can be transmitted from person to person.
2. School Role:
  - a. School Administration will design an immediate plan if a communicable disease breaks out in School. If necessary Northern Health will be consulted in designing the plan.
  - b. Distribute information and exposure letters to parents and caregivers.
  - c. Provide communication and information regarding illness of concern.
  - d. Work with Northern Health and Work Safe as needed.
3. Communication:
  - a. Provide fact sheets about the disease
  - b. Encourage students to have good health practices
    - i. Washing hands
    - ii. Not sharing food or eating utensils
    - iii. Cough etiquette
  - c. Treat blood and body fluids of every person as infectious.
4. Employees:
  - a. Employees have sick days in their contract should sickness occur.
  - b. Employees must practice proper hygiene, and health practices when dealing with sick children.
  - c. Employees are expected to willingly communicate concerning sickness in their classroom.
5. Environmental Practices:
  - a. Clean and disinfect common surface areas with detergent and water.
  - b. Disinfect areas when affected by blood or body fluids.
  - c. Wear gloves when dealing with body fluids or blood.
6. Recovery:
  - a. Provide good communication to parents who have students home.
  - b. Require parents to keep students home until after contagious stage.
7. Vaccines:
  - a. Parents are encouraged to sort out their preferences with Northern Health.
8. What to do when a child is sick:
  - a. Remove child from class so they can await parent pickup.
  - b. Call parent and have them picked up to go home.
  - c. Request parents to keep child home until well.

- d. Clean areas immediately affected by student.
9. On Going Monitoring:
- a. Bus Staff need to receive communication regarding Sickness in the school.
  - b. Extra-curricular events need to be monitored if the school has any communicable disease in student body.
  - c. Common public space must have additional cleaning if any communicable disease in school. Janitors need to be notified.
10. Closures:
- a. In the event of a sever issue in the school administration and Northern Health would determine if school closure is required.