



ST. ANDREW'S GRAMMAR

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES POLICY

<i>Date</i>	<i>Modified By</i>	<i>Ratified</i>	<i>Review</i>
February 2014	Principal	2014	2015
July 2017	Principal	2017	2018
July 2018	Principal	2018	2019
October 2024	Principal	2024	2026



ST. ANDREW'S GRAMMAR

Communicable Diseases Policy

St. Andrew's Grammar strives to remove immediate and/or serious risks to the health of our staff and students by adopting appropriate procedures for dealing with communicable diseases, whilst respecting the rights of individual privacy.

Accordingly, any person attending the School with a case of confirmed infectious disease will be excluded from St. Andrew's in accordance with the recommended minimum exclusion period to prevent illnesses spreading to others.

Prevention

As well as practising healthy personal hygiene, St. Andrew's Grammar promotes immunisation of staff and students as an effective way of helping to protect children against many infections that are serious or even life-threatening.

The School requires students to be up-to-date with age appropriate vaccinations upon enrolment and facilitates annual flu vaccinations for staff members.

Reporting

- It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to inform the School of any infectious disease that their child has been diagnosed with or is suspected to be suffering with.
- It is the responsibility of staff members to inform the Head of Primary or the Principal of any infectious disease that they have been diagnosed with or are suspected to be suffering with.
- A letter (see appendix 2) will be sent to parents/guardians of students when there has been a report of an infectious disease at the School. The Principal or Head of Primary will determine which classes are likely to have been affected and will provide the letter to parents/guardian of those students.

Exclusion

- All people, including students and staff who are suffering from infectious disease will be excluded from the School in accordance with the Recommended Minimum Exclusion Periods for Infectious Conditions for Schools, Pre-schools and Child Care Centres guidelines (see appendix 1) published by the National Health and Medical Research Council.
- When any such person is found to be showing signs of an infectious disease at school:
 - Students: Parents/guardians will be asked to immediately collect their child and seek medical advice;
 - Staff: Will immediately be released from work duties in order to seek medical attention and for the minimum exclusion period of the disease.

- Any person who has been excluded from the School with a communicable disease or infection will need to present a medical certificate from a registered medical practitioner before being allowed to resume at St. Andrew's.

Relevant Documents

Student Health Policy

Head Lice Policy

Workplace Health & Safety Policy

Duty of Care Policy

Enrolment Policy

Further Information

Department of Health - www.health.gov.au

Communicable Diseases Network of Australia - www.cda.gov.au

National Health and Medical Research Council - www.nhmrc.gov.au

Appendix 1 – Recommended Minimum Exclusion Periods for Infectious Conditions for Schools, Pre-schools and Child Care Centres

Condition	Exclusion of Student	Exclusion of Contacts*
Campylobacter infection	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Candidiasis (thrush)	Not excluded	Not excluded
Cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection	Not excluded	Not excluded
Conjunctivitis	Exclude until discharge from the eyes has stopped, unless a doctor has diagnosed non-infectious conjunctivitis	Not excluded
Cryptosporidium	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Diarrhoea (no organism identified)	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Fungal infections of the skin or nails (e.g. ringworm, tinea)	Exclude until the day after starting appropriate antifungal treatment	Not excluded
Giardiasis	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Glandular fever (mononucleosis, Epstein–Barr virus [EBV] infection)	Not excluded	Not excluded
Hand, foot and mouth disease	Exclude until all blisters have dried	Not excluded
Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)	Exclude until the person has received appropriate antibiotic treatment for at least 4 days	Not excluded Contact a public health unit for specialist advice
Hepatitis A	Exclude until a medical certificate of recovery is received and until at least 7 days after the onset of jaundice	Not excluded Contact a public health unit for specialist advice about vaccinating or treating children in the same room or group
Hepatitis B	Not excluded	Not excluded
Hepatitis C	Not excluded	Not excluded
Herpes simplex (cold sores, fever blisters)	Not excluded if the person can maintain hygiene practices to minimise the risk of transmission. If the person cannot comply with these practices (e.g. because they are too young), they should be excluded until the sores are dry. Sores should be covered with a dressing, where possible	Not excluded
Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)	Not excluded If the person is severely immune compromised, they will be vulnerable to other people’s illnesses	Not excluded
Human parvovirus B19 (fifth disease, erythema infectiosum, slapped cheek syndrome)	Not excluded	Not excluded
Hydatid disease	Not excluded	Not excluded
Impetigo	Exclude until appropriate antibiotic treatment has started Any sores on exposed skin should be covered with a watertight dressing	Not excluded
Influenza and influenza-like illnesses	Exclude until person is well	Not excluded
Listeriosis	Not excluded	Not excluded
Measles	Exclude for 4 days after the onset of the rash	Immunised and immune contacts are not excluded. For non-immunised contacts, contact a public health unit for specialist advice. All immunocompromised children should be excluded until 14 days after the appearance of the rash in the last case

Appendix 1 – Recommended Minimum Exclusion Periods for Infectious Conditions for Schools, Pre-schools and Child Care Centres

Condition	Exclusion of Student	Exclusion of Contacts*
Meningitis (viral)	Exclude until person is well	Not excluded
Meningococcal infection	Exclude until appropriate antibiotic treatment has been completed	Not excluded Contact a public health unit for specialist advice about antibiotics and/or vaccination for people who were in the same room as the student
Molluscum contagiosum	Not excluded	Not excluded
Mumps	Exclude for 9 days or until swelling goes down (whichever is sooner)	Not excluded
Norovirus	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion or vomiting for 48 hours	Not excluded
Pertussis (whooping cough)	Exclude until 5 days after starting appropriate antibiotic treatment, or for 21 days from the onset of coughing	Contact a public health unit for specialist advice about excluding non-vaccinated contacts, or antibiotics
Pneumococcal disease	Exclude until person is well	Not excluded
Roseola	Not excluded	Not excluded
Ross River virus	Not excluded	Not excluded
Rotavirus infection	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion or vomiting for 24 hours	Not excluded
Rubella (German measles)	Exclude until the person has fully recovered or for at least 4 days after the onset of the rash	Not excluded
Salmonellosis	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Scabies	Exclude until the day after starting appropriate treatment	Not excluded
Shigellosis	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Streptococcal sore throat (including scarlet fever)	Exclude until the person has received antibiotic treatment for at least 24 hours and feels well	Not excluded
Toxoplasmosis	Not excluded	Not excluded
Tuberculosis (TB)	Exclude until medical certificate is produced from the appropriate health authority	Not excluded Contact a public health unit for specialist advice about screening, antibiotics or specialist TB clinics
Varicella (chickenpox)	Exclude until medical certificate is produced from the appropriate health authority	Any child with an immune deficiency (for example, leukaemia) or receiving chemotherapy should be excluded for their own protection as they are at high risk of developing severe disease. Otherwise, not excluded
Viral gastroenteritis (viral diarrhoea)	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Worms	Exclude if loose bowel motions are occurring. Exclusion is not necessary if treatment has occurred	Not excluded

* The definition of 'contacts' will vary according to the disease - refer to the specific fact sheet in the Communicable Disease Guidelines booklet for more information.

<http://www.public.health.wa.gov.au/cproot/471/2/2013-doh-communicable-disease-guidelines.pdf>



ST. ANDREW'S GRAMMAR

Chickenpox

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Please be advised that there has been a case of Chickenpox in the Primary School. Chickenpox is a common illness among children. Itchy rashes of spots that look like blisters appear on the body and may be accompanied by flu-like symptoms.

Symptoms usually go away without treatment, but because the infection is very contagious, children must stay home and rest until the symptoms are gone.

More information can be found at:

http://kidshealth.org/parent/infections/skin/chicken_pox.html

Regards

XXX
Head of School

Date