

## POLICIES, GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES

SUBJECT	N.E.P.N. CODE
COMMUNICABLE DISEASES	JLCC

### I. POLICY

The Louis Riel School Division (LRSD) holds as paramount the health and safety of students and staff. Accordingly, the Division endorses responses to communicable diseases that:

- uphold legislated responsibilities;
- strive to minimize the impact of communicable diseases on students and staff;
- apply the most current and appropriate medical advice.

### II. GUIDELINES

1. Since common routes of transmission of communicable diseases include droplets and direct contact with body fluids (e.g., human bites), LRSD staff shall treat all body fluids as potentially infectious and use appropriate procedures to avoid direct contact with such fluids.
2. The [Canadian Pediatric Society](#) will be used in all divisional schools and workplaces to determine responses to staff or students who are affected by a communicable disease.
3. To minimize risk, or as a preventative measure, it is recommended that all staff working with students who have a history of biting consult their healthcare practitioner regarding the advisability of vaccination against tetanus and/or hepatitis-B.
4. The following [Safe Work Protocols](#) will guide practice in applicable situations:
  - Managing Human Bites
  - Reducing Exposure to Blood-borne and Other Bodily Fluid Pathogens

### III. PROCEDURES

1. To minimize the spread of communicable disease, school staff will adopt routine preventative procedures and encourage students to do the same. This includes, but is not limited to, handwashing, staying home when ill, cleaning and disinfecting, and disposal of materials. See [Routine Practices: Guide to Creating a Healthy Environment and Preventing Infections within Child Care Facilities and Schools](#) (Manitoba Education & Early Childhood Learning, 2023).

<b>Adopted:</b>	May 17, 2005	<b>Legal References:</b> <a href="#">The Public Schools Act (Manitoba)</a> ; <a href="#">The Public Health Act (Manitoba)</a>
<b>Revised:</b>	June 4, 2019; March 21, 2023; September 17, 2024	

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2. Where concerns regarding communicable disease exist, the School Principal or workplace supervisor shall ensure that legislated responsibilities are upheld:
  - a. In accordance with Section 232(1) of [The Public Schools Act](#), persons suffering from a communicable disease must not attend or enter a public school.
  - b. In accordance with Section 96(1)(e) of [The Public Schools Act](#), every teacher shall notify the School Principal who shall contact the local Public Health Nurse if there is reason to believe that a pupil attending the school has been exposed to or is suffering from a communicable disease as defined in [The Public Health Act](#).

Resources:

- [Diseases & Conditions A-Z Index](#), Manitoba Health
- [Routine Practices: Guide to Creating a Healthy Environment and Preventing Infections within Child Care Facilities and Schools](#) (Manitoba Education & Early Childhood Learning, 2023)

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