

 <p>DIVISION SCOLAIRE LOUIS RIEL SCHOOL DIVISION</p>	<h2>Managing Human Bites</h2>
<p>ADMINISTRATIVE PROTOCOL</p>	<p>Supporting Policy JLCC</p>

Human bites do occur within the school system. Most often, bites are directed towards school personnel working with the student. Prevention is always the best route. To reduce exposure to bites, the Division periodically offers training in working with students safely (Working Safely with Students WSWs), addressing areas such as keeping safe distances. Where a student is known to bite, personal protective devices such as arm guards provide some protection against bite wounds. School teams are reminded to share information, as appropriate, with others who will be working with students that are known to bite so they may take the necessary preventative steps.

It is important to recommend that all staff working with students with a history of biting consult their healthcare practitioner regarding the advisability of vaccination against tetanus and/or hepatitis-B.. Complete the [Vaccination Reimbursement form](#) for coverage through the Division.

All bites, intentional or accidental, should be evaluated immediately. In situations where a student is bitten, school staff will inform parents/guardians. The goal of early treatment is to reduce the chance of infection.

Steps to effectively treat a human bite:

1. Evaluate the bite area. Bites that do not break the skin may not require professional medical attention. Wash the bitten area thoroughly no matter how small the wound is. Use soap and running water. Copious washing will decrease the chance of infection.
2. Medical attention should be sought where a bite has broken the skin. Allow the wound to bleed to help cleanse the area of pathogens. If the wound is bleeding heavily, a clean dressing or sterile pad should be used to apply pressure until you can seek medical attention.
3. It is important when seeking medical attention for a bite that the victim follow the advice of the medical professional when it comes to care of the wound.