

INFECTIOUS DISEASE POLICY

This policy is informed by:

- **CMS Student Welfare Policy 2015**
- CMS Health Policy (*reviewed 2016*)
- National Quality Framework: *National Regulation: Regulation 4,88.*
www.acecqua.gov.au
- ACT Public Health Regulations 2000
<http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/sl/2000-1/default.asp>
- Communicable disease control (ACT Health)
<http://www.health.act.gov.au/public-information/public-health/communicable-diseases>

Statement:

Canberra Montessori School (CMS) aims to support the prevention and control of transmission of infectious disease.

Rationale:

The primary responsibility for the prevention and control of infectious diseases lies with individuals, families and public health authorities. CMS supports the prevention and control of vaccine preventable and other infectious diseases. CMS is obliged (depending on the type of condition) to help prevent the spread of disease including:

- Notification of a disease or condition (by parents to the school and, for vaccine preventable diseases and by the school to ACT Health, Health Protection Service, Communicable Disease Control).
- Compliance with exclusion periods and related procedures for students and staff.
- Taking reasonable precautions.

Practices and Procedures:

CMS must:

- Inform ACT Health, Health Protection Service, Communicable Disease Control (Ph: (02) 6205 2155) and the parent/carer where it is believed, on reasonable grounds, that a student has a vaccine preventable disease, or has been in contact with a person with the disease or a non-immunised student has been in contact with a person with the disease.
- Inform ACT Health, Health Protection Service, Communicable Disease Control when they believe, on reasonable grounds, that a staff member has a vaccine preventable disease.
- Provide information requested by the Public Health Unit, to control spread of the disease.
- Follow procedures for that disease and comply with directions from the Public Health Unit.
- Comply with exclusion periods and related procedures (note: CMS has an exclusion period of 48 hours when students or staff have gastroenteritis).
- Notify the community of their responsibilities by CMS School Bulletin at least once a year.

Staff must:

- Take reasonable precautions if they know or suspect they have a transmissible notifiable condition or have had a contact with such a person. Reasonable safeguards include provision taken on the advice of a doctor.

ACT Health Directorate:

- Will provide information to schools on immunisation records and exclusion requirements annually for schools to forward to parents and carers as part of the enrolment process.
- May issue School Health Directions including directives and/or specified actions if the Chief Health Officer believes, on reasonable grounds, that there is an outbreak of a vaccine preventable disease at the school, or in the local community.

Parents and Carers must:

- Exclude their child from school and, as soon as possible, notify reception if they have reasonable grounds for believing their child has transmitted or been in contact with a person who has a vaccine preventable or other infectious disease.
- Comply with any directions given by the Chief Health Officer in relation to vaccine preventable diseases including taking reasonable precautions to prevent the spread of disease.

Approved by:	Date:	Next Review Date:
Principal	07/08/2020	07/08/2022