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Communicative Disease & Infestation Policy

1. Background

1.1 Communicative diseases like:

- a) H1N1 (swine) Flu
- b) influenza,
- c) gastroenteritis,
- d) MRSA (skin infections)
- e) pertussis (whooping cough)
- f) tuberculosis
- g) measles
- h) mumps
- i) chicken pox, and
- j) similar spread rapidly in the close confines of a classroom and the school should ensure the health and safety of all.

2. Legislation

2.1 The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, Act 108 of 1996.

2.2 The South African Schools Act, Act 84 of 1996.

2.3 Government Gazette Vol.410, No.20372, 10th August 1999.

2.4 The Children's Act (Act no. 38 of 2005) as amended.

3. General

3.1 In the interest of public health and learner safety, children displaying symptoms will be sent home as a precautionary action.

3.2 Children with infestations like lice, ring worm, scabies and similar, will also be sent home. Children suffering from these infestations should only return when it is clear or with a doctors certificate indicating that they no longer pose a threat to other learners.

3.4 Children with lice infestation may only return once the lice and nits (eggs of a louse) have been removed from the hair. The nit sticks to the hair and must be carefully removed using a fine toothed comb or fingers.

3.5 Parents are reminded that this is not a disciplinary process, but a public health procedure.