




## INFECTION CONTROL POLICY

<b>Purpose:</b>	The purpose of this Policy is to outline the strategies Ormiston College will implement to reduce the spread of infectious diseases and the communication processes it will follow once a case has been identified.		
<b>Scope:</b>	This Policy is to be adhered to by all stakeholders which include all staff, directors, managers, workers, parents, students, volunteers, contractors, suppliers and visitors at the College.		
<b>Legislation and References:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Qld)</i></li> <li>• <i>Information Privacy Act 2009 (Qld)</i></li> <li>• <i>Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008</i></li> <li>• <i>Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2018 (Qld)</i></li> <li>• <i>Queensland Health Minimum Exclusion Schedule</i></li> <li>• <i>Infection Control Education Queensland</i></li> <li>• <i>Managing the Work Environment and Facilities Code of Practice 2021</i></li> <li>• <i>How to Manage Work Health and Safety Risks Code of Practice 2021</i></li> <li>• <i>First Aid in the Workplace Code of Practice 2021 (Qld)</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Ormiston College Related Documents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Aid Policy</li> <li>• Privacy Policy</li> <li>• Risk Management Policy</li> <li>• Workplace Health and Safety Policy</li> </ul>		
<b>Policy Owner:</b>	College Governing Body	<b>Version:</b>	V271125
<b>Status:</b>	Approved	<b>Supersedes:</b>	V170423
<b>Authorised by:</b>	MICHAEL HORNBY	<b>To Be Reviewed:</b>	Every 2 years
<b>Date of Authorisation:</b>	11/12/2025	<b>Next Review Date:</b>	December 2027
<b>Signature:</b>			

Once printed this is an uncontrolled document

## POLICY STATEMENT

Ormiston College is committed to minimising the risk of students and staff being exposed to contagious medical conditions at school. This policy outlines the overarching principles of infection control through the use of standard precautions and best practices.

Contagious conditions as per Public Health Regulation 2018

Excluded Conditions	Conditions not Requiring Exclusion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chickenpox</li> <li>• Conjunctivitis</li> <li>• COVID-19</li> <li>• Diarrhoea and/or Vomiting</li> <li>• Enterovirus 71</li> <li>• Fungal Infections</li> <li>• German Measles (Rubella)</li> <li>• Haemophilus Influenza Type B (Hib)</li> <li>• Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease</li> <li>• Hepatitis A &amp; E</li> <li>• Influenza and Influenza-like illness</li> <li>• Measles*</li> <li>• Meningitis (bacterial and viral)</li> <li>• Meningococcal Infection*</li> <li>• Mumps</li> <li>• Norovirus</li> <li>• Scabies</li> <li>• School Sores (Impetigo)</li> <li>• Shiga Toxin-producing E.Coli (STEC)</li> <li>• Shigellosis*</li> <li>• Shingles (Herpes Zoster)</li> <li>• Streptococcal Sore Throat (including Scarlet Fever)</li> <li>• Tuberculosis (TB)*</li> <li>• Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever</li> <li>• Whooping Cough (Pertussis)*</li> <li>• Worms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cold Sores (Herpes Hhimplex)</li> <li>• Cytomegalovirus (CMV)</li> <li>• Glandular Fever (Mononucleosis, Epstein-Barr Virus)</li> <li>• Head Lice</li> <li>• Hepatitis B &amp; C</li> <li>• Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV/AIDS)</li> <li>• Molluscum Contagiosum</li> <li>• Roseola, Sixth Disease</li> <li>• Slapped Cheek Syndrome</li> </ul>
<p><b>Note:</b>  <i>* Indicates immediate notification if suspected or confirmed to the Qld Public Health Unit. The remaining conditions are notifiable within 5 business days. These are to be checked against the latest Queensland Health resources.</i></p>	

Once printed this is an uncontrolled document

Infection control refers to the procedures used to reduce the risk of spreading infectious diseases within the school environment. These procedures are based on the principles of standard precautions, which are applied consistently to all individuals, regardless of suspected or confirmed infection status.

Ormiston College employs a full-time Division 1 Registered Nurse who, in collaboration with the Workplace Health and Safety Officer, supports the implementation of infection control procedures and provides relevant information to staff, students and their families as required.

Ormiston College will implement a structured Risk Management process in accordance with the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Qld)*. This includes identifying infection risks, assessing their likelihood and consequences, and implementing control measures to eliminate or minimise those risks. Risk Assessments will be reviewed regularly.

## **STANDARD PRECAUTIONS**

Standard precautions are the basic infection control practices that are consistently applied across the College to reduce the risk of infection. These include good hygiene (particularly handwashing), use of personal protective equipment (such as gloves and masks), safe handling of sharps and sterile techniques where required.

To minimise infection risk, contact with bodily fluids – including blood (wet or dry), secretions and other body substances – should be avoided during interactions at school.

### **Staff and Students should:**

- Cover any broken skin (e.g. hands, forearms) with a dressing (available in First Aid kits or from the Health Centre).
- Assume all blood and bodily fluids are potentially infectious.
- Avoid direct contact with any bodily fluids and be alert to the risks of spills.
- Always follow recommended hygiene and standard precautions.

### **Spill Management:**

- Clean spills promptly using single-use gloves if willing and able.
- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water afterwards.
- If staff do not feel comfortable cleaning the spill they should contact cleaning staff to clean the area according to infection control guidelines for that body fluid.

### **CPR Guidance:**

- If mouth-to-mouth resuscitation is necessary, use a resuscitation mask if available.
- In the absence of a mask, compression-only CPR is recommended, in line with Australian Resuscitation Council guidelines.

**Additional precautions** are implemented during infectious disease outbreaks, as directed by Commonwealth or State Health authorities, and are used alongside standard precautions to help prevent disease transmission.

Schools have a legal and practical responsibility to manage infectious diseases by:

- Being guided by Queensland Health for exclusion and immunisation requirements.
- Supporting student hygiene (e.g. providing handwashing facilities).
- Ensuring safe procedures for managing spills of blood or other bodily fluids.

### **Immunisation Programs:**

Schools play an important role in assisting Health authorities and families to prevent and control the spread of infectious diseases through the support of immunisation programs. Parents have the option to record the immunisation status of their student in the school records.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Headmaster Responsibilities:**

- Comply with any directions from the Director-General of Queensland Health.
- Comply with any order made by the Minister for Health.
- Implement the relevant provisions of the Public Health legislation.
- Follow current Queensland Health hygiene and infection control guidelines.

### **College Nurse Responsibilities:**

- Communicate, promote and model good hygiene and infection control practices.
- Implement local infection control practices.
- The College Nurse will advise the Headmaster if they reasonably suspect that a student attending the College may have a serious contagious condition.
- If a student becomes ill on campus, the College Nurse or an appropriate staff member will contact the parent/guardian of the student for collection and monitor the student's condition until they are collected.
- If the College Nurse reasonably suspects a student may have a contagious condition and that other students may be at risk of contracting the contagious condition, they will advise a parent of their suspicion and notify the parent of their obligation to not send the student to school whilst contagious.
- The College Nurse, when notified of a confirmed case of a contagious condition requiring exclusion from school, will contact the Public Health Unit, who will advise of the appropriate exclusion period and information for any high-risk contacts.
- Will keep a register of notifiable medical condition cases with the medical condition, cohort of the student, parent notification sent date and the date the Qld Public Health Unit was notified if applicable.
- Maintain the privacy and confidentiality of information and documentation about a student and their family or a staff member regarding suspected/confirmed contagious conditions.
- When required, the College Nurse will provide appropriate awareness regarding infection control practices.
- When required the College Nurse will provide education on health and wellbeing.

**Staff Responsibilities:**

- Implement local infection control practices.
- Communicate and promote infection control practices to students.
- Follow any instructions given by the Headmaster, College Nurse, or the Director-General of Queensland Health.
- If a student becomes unwell on an excursion or camp with a suspected contagious condition requiring exclusion, an appropriate staff member will contact the parent/guardian of the student for collection and monitor the student's condition until they are collected.
- If a student becomes unwell on an excursion or camp with a suspected notifiable contagious condition requiring exclusion, an appropriate staff member will inform the College Nurse, or the relevant supervising Executive.
- Communicate, promote and model good hygiene and infection control practices.
- Notify the College Nurse if there is a reasonable suspicion that a student attending the College may have a contagious condition.
- Staff to advise the Headmaster and College Nurse if they themselves have a contagious condition.
- Maintain the privacy and confidentiality of information and documentation about a student and their family or a staff member regarding suspected/confirmed contagious conditions.

**Parent Responsibilities:**

- Parents should not send their children to school if their child is unwell and they know or should reasonably know that their child has a contagious condition.
- If parents are unsure, they can contact the College Nurse and seek advice on attending school.
- Parents should inform the College or contact the College Nurse as soon as possible if their child has or is suspected to have a contagious condition.
- Parents are advised to follow advice from the College when correspondence is sent regarding contagious diseases. This may include links to Public Health authorities as well as details regarding quarantine, return to school procedures.
- Parents must make every effort to collect their children with a contagious condition from the College as soon as possible after being notified by the College Nurse or appropriate staff member.

**Specifically:**

- Children who have experienced vomiting and/or diarrhoea may return to school 24 hours after the last occurrence.
- Children with conjunctivitis must have commenced treatment and secretions cleared before they return to school.
- Children with school sores can return to school 24 hours after commencing antibiotic treatment, and any weeping school sores remain covered until they are healed.
- The latest up to date advice can be found on the following Queensland Health link:  
[https://www.health.qld.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0022/426820/timeout\\_poster.pdf](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0022/426820/timeout_poster.pdf)

## **Data Breach Response**

If health information is involved in a breach, the College Nurse and ICT Manager will immediately notify the Headmaster and follow the College's Data Breach Response Plan.

- The College will:
  - Comply with mandatory data breach notification requirements under the *Information Privacy Act 2009 (Qld)*.
  - Notify affected individuals and the Office of the Information Commissioner as required.
  - Maintain records of the breach and corrective actions taken.

## **Student Responsibilities:**

- To follow good hygiene and infection control practices as promoted by the College.