

IX. HIV / AIDS Policy

Purpose

HIV/AIDS presents the largest single threat to the functionality of educational institutions at present. The aims of a school HIV/AIDS Policy should be to:

- ✦ Minimize the chances of HIV/AIDS transmission in the school community
- ✦ Ensure that the message of HIV/AIDS awareness is effectively communicated in the school community
- ✦ Make the school is an enabling and supportive environment for HIV positive teachers and learners

Required Content

The HIV/AIDS Policy of the National Department of Education is specified in their 'HIV/AIDS Guidelines for Educators' (2000). This documents the necessity that every school addresses the following issues:

- ✦ The application of universal precautions in dealing with accident and injury
- ✦ Policy to eliminate the sexual transmission of HIV
- ✦ Policy on eliminating sexual assault and rape, and procedures to follow in their events
- ✦ Policy on creating an enabling and supportive environment for HIV positive educators and learners
- ✦ Policies to minimize discrimination and protect confidentiality
- ✦ Policies to protect orphans and other affected persons and ensure that they have access to the necessary health and welfare services
- ✦ Policies to minimize the disruptive effects of absences and deaths
- ✦ Policies to ensure that life-saving information is effectively integrated into the school curriculum and communicated within the school community.

Recommended Content

A School HIV/AIDS Policy might form just part of a wider Health and Welfare Policy for a school.

Illegal Content

Any content that compromises the constitutional rights of any member of the school community is illegal. In particular policies must ensure the individuals right to confidentiality and freedom from discrimination in access to education.

HIV / AIDS Policy of

School

1. Aims of the Policy

Mabela Intermediate School, School recognizes the urgent need for schools to develop policy in response to the National HIV/AIDS crisis. The aims of this policy are to:

- (a) Minimize the chances of HIV/AIDS transmission in the school community
- (b) Ensure that the message of HIV/AIDS awareness is effectively communicated in the school community
- (c) To make the school is an enabling and supportive environment for HIV positive teachers and learners

2. Accident and Injury Policy

- (a) The school will make available the following First Aid Kit items for use in the event of injury:
 - i. Hand gloves
 - ii. Bandages/Blood contaminated material.
 - iii. Running water.
 - iv. First aid kit.
 - v. Protective eyeware.

These items will be stored in the: First aid kit box

- (b) No one should have direct contact with another person's blood or body fluids. The following precautions will be followed in the event of an injury at school:

Handle the injured with care and caution.

- (c) Sports Policy. The following precautions will be observed during sporting activities:

First aid kit with rubber gloves will be available at the site where sports is taking place.

No one should play sports with open wounds or flesh injuries.

- (d) This information will be communicated to teachers and learners in the following way:

3. Sexual Behaviour

- (a) The following measures will be taken to minimize the chance of HIV/AIDS transmission between learners by as a result of sexual activity:

Educators should guide learners to abstain from doing sexual intercourse. Encourage them to faithful to their partners use condoms.

- (b) Our Policy says the following about sexual relations between teachers and learners:

The law says that any sexual relations between teachers and learners is strictly forbidden and constitutes a criminal offence punishable by dismissal.

- (c) In the event of a sexual assault or rape the school will follow this procedure:

Report the matter to police.

4. Creating an enabling and supportive school environment for HIV positive teachers and learners

- (a) The following measures ensure that HIV positive teachers and learners do not experience discrimination:

Provisions that ensure that the rights of infected people are respected.

Provisions for finding out what the needs of the learners are.

Provisions to assist those who are infected and affected to participate in and benefit from the work of the school.

Provisions to protect those who are HIV positive from untracting infections illnesses at the school.

- (b) The following measures protect teachers and learners who confidentially disclose their HIV positive status:

The constitution rights of all learners and teachers must be protected on an equal basis.

- (c) When teachers are absent for extended periods of time, we will put the following measures in place:

A substitute teacher would be in place.

- (b) We will take the following steps to ensure that the message of HIV/AIDS awareness is effectively integrated into the school curriculum:

During LO (i.e. Life Orientation) lessons a message of HIV/AIDS awareness would be effectively integrated into our school curriculums.

Adopted and signed : _____

Principal : [Signature] 28/06/2018

SGB Chairperson : [Signature] 28/06/2018

SGB Secretary : [Signature] 28/06/2018

DATE : _____

Verify : [Signature]
17/05/2019

