

 CAMPS BAY HIGH SCHOOL	CAMPS BAY HIGH SCHOOL: POLICIES		
	POLICY:	HIV/AIDS POLICY	
		DATE:	1 MAY 2021

1. PURPOSE OF THE POLICY

The purpose of this HIV policy is to:

- 1.1 contribute towards the South African national goal of realising quality basic education and an HIV-free generation among the under-20 age group by 2030;
- 1.2 describe strategies that will be used by the school to ensure that it will do all in its power to prevent disease and promote the health and well-being of learners and school staff; and
- 1.3 ensure that no person is discriminated against or denied the enjoyment of his/her Constitutional rights on account of his/her HIV status.

2. PRINCIPLES

- 2.1 The school recognises and will uphold the Constitutional rights of all persons, including the right to dignity and privacy and children's right to basic education.
- 2.2 The school recognises that it has an obligation to ensure these rights are respected by all members of the school community.
- 2.3 Learners with HIV should lead as full a life as possible and not be denied the opportunity of receiving an education to the maximum of their capacity.
- 2.4 Staff with HIV should lead as full a professional life as possible.
- 2.5 The school accepts that:
 - a) It is impossible to know with certainty who has HIV and who does not but almost certainly there are learners with HIV in our school;
 - b) You can only get HIV by coming into contact with specific bodily fluids of someone living with the virus (e.g. blood, semen, breastmilk);
 - c) HIV can be transmitted during unprotected sex; through sharing injecting equipment; from mother-to-baby during pregnancy, birth and breastfeeding; and through contaminated blood transfusions;
 - d) HIV cannot be transmitted through day-to-day social contact;
 - e) Current scientific evidence suggests that, provided universal precautions are adhered to, adequate wound management takes place, and there is strict adherence to universal precautions under all circumstances in the school, the risk of HIV transmission during teaching, sport and play activities is insignificant; and
 - f) There is no risk of transmission from saliva, sweat, tears, urine, respiratory droplets, handshaking, swimming pool water, toilets, food or drinking water.

3. DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

Terms used in this School HIV Policy are those used in the National Policy on HIV, STIs and TB and the South African Schools Act.

school	refers to Camps Bay High School
school community	includes all learners, all members of staff, all parents

school day	is that portion of each day in which it is compulsory for educators and learners to be at school and includes the seven hours contact time that is expected of educators and learners, including breaks, compulsory activities, assembly, and designated extramural activities
the Policy	National Policy on HIV, STIs and TB for Learners, Educators, School Support Staff and Officials in All Primary and Secondary Schools in the Basic Education Sector
SMT	School Management Team

4. APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

This policy is compiled in accordance with the following legislation and amendments:

- Constitution of the Republic of South Africa Act 108 of 1996
- South African Schools Act 84 of 1996
- Children's Act 28 of 2005
- Sexual Offences and Related Matters Amendment Act 32 of 2007
- National Policy on HIV, STIs and TB for Learners, Educators, School Support Staff and Officials in All Primary and Secondary Schools in the Basic Education Sector, GN 777 in GG 41024 of 4 August 2017 (the Policy)

5. APPLICATION AND SCOPE OF THE POLICY

5.1 This policy applies to all learners, parents, and staff of the school.

6. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SGB

6.1 The SGB, in conjunction with the school's management, is responsible for developing the School HIV Policy and must do so in consultation with relevant stakeholders.

6.2 The policy will be reviewed at least every three years and when there are changes in legislation or interpretation of the legislation.

6.3 Where necessary, the SGB will assist the principal when action must be taken following breaches of this policy.

7. Responsibilities of the Principal

7.1 The principal will ensure that the school community is educated regarding HIV and all related matters, including the symptoms of HIV and other related infectious diseases.

7.2 The principal will ensure that the school policy is implemented and adherence to it is monitored.

7.3 The principal is responsible for instituting action against any person who acts in contravention of the policy using the appropriate disciplinary and other legal remedies. Where necessary, the SGB's assistance will be required.

7.4 The principal will assign qualified Life Skills/Life Orientation teachers to teach the prescribed curriculum, including the Comprehensive Sexuality Education component, and ensure that teachers are continuously updated on the latest HIV information.

7.5 The principal will provide training for all staff on how to:

- a) manage a situation when a person discloses his/her HIV status;
- b) manage confidentiality issues; and
- c) provide the required support for the person who has disclosed.

8. HIV POLICY DETAIL

8.1 Access to education

No learner will be refused admission to the school on the basis of his/her actual or perceived HIV status.

8.2 Access to counselling, testing, treatment, care and support

Camps Bay High will provide the services of a psychologist, counsellor, support teacher who will assist learners and staff by providing counselling, care and information about how to test and where to obtain treatment.

8.3 Access to information

- a) Learners and all staff will be provided up-to-date information on the prevention of HIV and treatment
- b) Learners will be taught age-relevant HIV information in the Life Skills and Life Orientation curriculum (Comprehensive Sexuality Education Programme).
- c) The education programme will include
 - the transmission and prevention of HIV;
 - avoidance measures, abstinence, and protection;
 - emphasising the role of drugs, sexual abuse, violence, and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in the transmission of HIV;
 - empowering learners to deal with these issues;
 - developing a culture of non-discrimination towards those living with HIV;
 - “universal precautions” - basic first aid principles, including how to deal with bleeding with the necessary safety precautions;
 - medical male circumcision;
 - post-exposure prophylaxis (treatment to prevent a person from becoming HIV positive after an incident such as rape);
 - sexual and reproductive health services; and
 - sexually transmitted infections.

8.4 Access to protection

- a) The school will assist a learner who enquires how she/he may protect her/himself from acquiring HIV.
- b) The school notes that in terms of the law a learner over the age of 12 can access contraceptives and HIV testing without parental approval.
- c) The school notes that in terms of the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters Amendment Act 32 of 2007) the age of consent in South Africa for all sexual acts is 16 years. Section 15 of this Act (statutory rape) prohibits an act of sexual penetration with a child who is 12 years of age or older but under the age of 16 years. Section 16 (statutory sexual assault) prohibits an act of sexual violation with a child who is 12 years of age or older but under the age of 16. However, sexual acts between two children where both are between 12 and 16, or where one is under 16 and the other is less than two years older, do not constitute a criminal act.

8.5 Equity and protection from stigma and discrimination

- a) The school will treat everyone equally, including those who are known or perceived to be HIV-positive.
- b) The school will from time-to-time include lessons that educate learners and staff on social justice matters related to stigma and discrimination.
- c) The school will take action against any person who stigmatises or discriminates against another person on the basis of the person’s HIV status.

8.6 Fair labour practices

- a) No employee or prospective employee may be required to undergo HIV testing in order to be employed, promoted or to undergo training.

8.7 Gender equality, sensitivity and responsiveness

The Policy recognises that “HIV, STIs and TB may affect women and men, girls and boys and those from the LGBTQI community differently due to their biological, socio-cultural and economic circumstances and opportunities. Application of all aspects of this Policy will be sensitive and responsive to these different needs and will recognise and address the vulnerabilities of learners, particularly those of the girl-child, to gender-based violence, incest and any kind of abuse.”

8.8 Privacy and confidentiality

- a) Every person has the right to privacy and confidentiality regarding their health, gender identity or sexual orientation including information related to their HIV status.
- b) No person will disclose such information relating to another person, without his or her written consent or the written consent of the parents of children.
- c) Staff will be trained in how to manage disclosure by any person and will be supported in handling confidentiality issues.

8.9 Reasonable accommodation

- a) The school will accommodate any reasonable absence of learners or staff required for diagnosis, treatment, care, counselling, or support linked to HIV. Staff leave provisions will apply.
- b) The school will do all it can to assist learners who are unable to attend school because they are living with or affected by HIV by providing teaching, learning and assessment support as far as it is possible to do so.

8.10 Safety, security and health in the school

- a) The school will take all reasonable precautions to maintain a safe working environment for learners and staff.
- b) Infection-control measures and adaptations must be universally applied and carried out in the school by all learners and employees, regardless of the known or unknown HIV status of individuals concerned.
- c) In accordance with the above, the school has adopted the following specific strategies and precautions to eliminate the risk of transmission of all blood-borne pathogens, including HIV, as follows:
 - Blood, especially in large spills such as from nosebleeds, and old blood or bloodstains, should be handled with extreme caution.
 - Skin exposed accidentally to blood must be washed immediately with soap and running water.
 - Skin that has been broken by biting or scratching must be washed, cleaned with antiseptic and covered with a waterproof dressing.
 - All bleeding wounds, sores, breaks in the skin, grazes and open skin lesions must be cleaned immediately with running water and/or other antiseptics and covered with non-porous or waterproof dressing and kept covered.
 - Blood splashes to the face should be flushed with running water for at least three minutes.
 - Disposable bags or sanitary bins must be made available to dispose of sanitary wear.
 - Latex gloves or plastic bags must be worn during the treatment or management of bleeding.
 - Any surface contaminated by body fluids must be cleaned with running water and bleach.
 - Blood-contaminated material must be sealed in a plastic bag and sent to an appropriate disposal firm. (Tissues and toilet paper may readily be flushed down a toilet.)
 - First aid kits must be kept in strategic places around the school. These kits must be accessible at all times.
 - First aid kits must be kept in vehicles transporting learners on outings and tours.
 - Players with open or bleeding wounds must be removed from the sports field until they have been treated and the bleeding must be stopped before they return.

- Blood-stained clothing must be removed and stored in a plastic bag. The player may not return to the game until he/she is wearing clean clothing.

9. **CONCLUSION**

This HIV Policy for Camps Bay High School was adopted by the Governing Body of Camps Bay High School at a meeting held at the school on date indicated below.

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____
PRINCIPAL

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____
SGB CHAIRPERSON

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____
SGB SECRETARY

POLICY REGISTER DETAILS

TITLE OF POLICY	VEHICLE & TRANSPORT POLICY
DATE APPROVED BY SGB	
EFFECTIVE DATE	May 2021
EXPIRY DATE	This Vehicle & Transport Policy remains in force until amended or replaced <u>and</u> approved by the SGB.
REVIEW DATE	Three years or sooner from date of adoption. Each SGB should review this policy at least once during its term of office.

Updated May 2021