

Hiv/Aids Policy

All learners attending Bright Future

Staff employed by Bright Future.

Parents/ guardians of Learners at Bright Future.

POLICY STATEMENT

Bright Future strives to acknowledge and deal with the impact of HIV/AIDS by:

- Providing information about the disease to all learners, staff and interested parents. We explain in a way that a young child would understand.
- Through education and furtherance of the Christian ethos to prevent the transmission of HIV.
- Provide reasonable safeguards to prevent exposure to the virus by the provision of universal precautions throughout the school.
- Ensuring that there is no discrimination against learners, parents or staff.
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BACKGROUND

AIDS is a diseases caused by HIV. The HIV is spread only when an adequate amount of infected bodily fluid enters the bloodstream of a non-infected person. Main modes of transmission are:

- Unprotected penetrative sexual intercourse where the exchange of bodily fluid take place.
- Through accidental or deliberate shared used of HIV contaminated needles or cutting instruments
- From infected mother to unborn infants.
- Thorough transfusion of infected blood or blood products.

TESTING

- Testing for HIV/AIDS for employment or attendance at school is prohibited.
- Bright Future does encourage staff, learners and parents to know their HIV status.

DISCLOSURE

- No parent, learner or staff member is compelled to disclose their HIV status.
- Voluntary disclosure to the principal would be welcomed as to ensure confidentiality of such information and to avoid unfair discrimination.

NON DISCRIMINATION

- No learner or staff member may be unfairly discriminated against.
- Learners may not be denied admission into Bright Future or continue attendance on account of their HIV/AIDS status.
- No staff member may be denied employment or be dismissed on account of their HIV/AIDS status.
- Universal precautions and control measures must be applied to all regardless of their known or unknown status.
- All persons should be considered potentially infected and have their bloods or blood products treated as such.

EDUCATION

- Learners must receive education regarding the schools blood policy.
- Learners must be educated on how to deal with an accident or exposure to blood or bodily fluids.

SAFE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT: UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS

- Bright Future promotes the application of universal precautions within the schools.
- These precautions must be applied regardless of the know or unknown status of the individual.
- All open wounds, blood, blood products and bodily fluid must be treated as potentially hazardous.
- The school's blood policy must be followed.
- Blood spills must be handled with caution and protective clothing need to be worn when cleaned up.
- Skin exposed to blood must be washed immediately with soap and running water.
- All open and bleeding wounds must be cleaned and covered.
- Blood splashes in the face must be flushed with running water.
- Blood and blood products must be disposed of appropriately.
- All persons attending and treating wounds or bodily fluids must at all-time wear rubber gloves.
- Surfaces contaminated with bodily fluids must be cleaned with water and bleach.
- Blood contaminated instruments must be cleaned with running water and bleach.
- Bright Future will ensure that first aid kits are readily available throughout the school, and that they are checked on a regular basis.
- Staff must be educated on HIV/AIDS and how to deal with blood and blood products.