



St Saviour's Primary School

Safe at School

Sharps Syringe Policy

(June 2014)

VISION STATEMENT

St Saviour's Primary School is an educational community living out Mercy values each day.

Our Vision is:-

- That each child is valued and respected.
- That each child's giftedness is recognised.
- That each child's potential is realised.
- That each member of the school community strives for goodness.

RATIONALE

Although incidents involving syringes are rare at St Saviour's Primary School, staff must always be alert and prepared to deal with situations where an incident may occur (e.g. finding a syringe discarded by an unknown person within, or in close proximity to the school grounds).

VALUES

St Saviour's Primary School is a Catholic Primary School committed to the provision of a safe, healthy and caring environment. This Sharps/Syringe Policy reflects the values espoused in the Mission of a Catholic School by promoting respect, responsibility, responsiveness and resourcefulness.

POLICY STATEMENT

St Saviour's Primary School promotes a safe and supportive environment in which members of the school community acquire skills and knowledge to make decisions and perform actions that optimise the health and well-being of all students. Effective practices are in place to minimise the risk of a needle-stick injury including the appropriate disposal of sharps and syringes.

DESIRABLE CONSEQUENCES

Principal and Staff Responsibilities:

All staff has a responsibility to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children at all times. Specifically, the following duties must be carried out:

- Staff must wear suitable personal protective equipment when checking/working in areas of potential hazards
- All syringes, packaging and all other used material (which may contain contaminated blood) must be immediately disposed of in the Sharps Disposal Container located in the School Office
- If a staff member sustains a suspected needle-stick injury seek medical assistance and complete an Incident Report
- If a syringe and or hazardous waste is found, secure the area and ensure children are out of the immediate area
- Notify the Principal as soon as possible

Parent Responsibilities:

- Never attempt to pick up a syringe, needle or hazardous waste
- If a syringe, needle or hazardous waste is found, report to a staff member immediately
- If a suspected needle-stick injury has occurred report to staff member immediately

Student Responsibilities:

- Never attempt to pick up a syringe, needle or hazardous waste
- If a syringe, needle or hazardous waste is found, report to a staff member immediately
- If a suspected needle-stick injury has occurred report to staff member immediately

DEFINITIONS:

Reference to 'Parents' in this Policy includes Guardians and Caregivers.

Sharp Waste: is any item having corners, edges, or projections capable of cutting or piercing the skin. Needles, syringes and blades are considered sharps and must be disposed in sharps containers and managed as sharps waste.

REVIEW HISTORY:

Date	Event	Changes / Comments
01/2014	Rev00	Policy Revision
06/2014	Rev01	Minor formatting changes

TO BE REVIEWED: 2015