

WEILENMANN SCHOOL OF DISCOVERY

Bloodborne Pathogens

Infectious Materials Guidelines

Bloodborne Pathogens Standard

The Administration at the Weilenmann School of Discovery has established this internal administrative policy in order to provide employees with guidelines and a plan for controlling exposure to bloodborne pathogens at the school. This policy includes all the elements required by the OSHA bloodborne pathogens standard (29 CFR 1910.1030).

Exposure Control Plan

The school is committed to providing a safe and healthy work environment for students and staff. In pursuit of this goal, the following exposure control plan (ECP) is provided to eliminate or minimize exposure to bloodborne pathogens in accordance with OSHA standard 29 *CFR* 1910.1030, "Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens."

The ECP is a key document to assist the school in implementing and ensuring compliance with the standard, thereby protecting employees and students. This ECP includes:

- Determination of employee exposure;
- Implementation of various methods of exposure control, including:
 - Universal precaution;
 - Work practice controls;
 - Protective equipment;
 - Facilities housekeeping.
- Post-exposure evaluation and follow-up;
- Communication of hazards to employees;
- Training;
- Recordkeeping;
- Procedures for evaluating circumstances surrounding exposure incidents;
- Implementation methods for these elements of the standard are also discussed in the ECP.

Program Administration

- The Facilities Manager is responsible for implementation of the ECP. This Safety Officer will maintain, review, and update the ECP whenever necessary to include new or modified tasks and procedures.

- Those employees who are determined to have occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials must comply with the procedures and work practices outlined in this ECP.
- The Facilities Manager will provide and maintain all necessary personal protective equipment in pods and in other appropriate areas, and provide such protective equipment to custodial staff as is necessary for their assigned tasks.
- The School Nurse or a designated representative will be responsible for ensuring that all medical actions required by the standard are performed when exposure has occurred and that appropriate employee health records are maintained.
- The Administration will be responsible for training and related documentation, as well as distribution of this ECP to employees.

Employee Exposure Determination

The school recognizes that teachers or staff members may have occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens or other infectious materials. The school also recognizes that custodial staff are at highest risk for occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens or other infectious materials. Specifically, custodial staff may have occupational exposure through handling of waste, cleaning of bathrooms, cleaning of bodily fluids (such as vomit, blood, urine, or feces), and other related tasks or procedures.

Exposure Control Plan

All employees will utilize universal precautions when exposed to or when likely exposed to bloodborne pathogens. In conjunction with medical and health training, employees will receive annual training on precautions and procedures related to bloodborne pathogens. New employees will receive an explanation of the ECP as part of their orientation. The Administration will be responsible for reviewing and updating the ECP annually, or more frequently if necessary, to reflect any new or modified tasks and procedures that affect occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens and to reflect new or revised employee positions with occupational exposure.

Work Practices

The work practice controls listed below will be used to prevent or minimize exposure to bloodborne pathogens:

- Containers will be maintained or replaced by the Facilities Manager whenever necessary to prevent overfilling, undue exposure to waste, and to support the general health and safety of the school, its employees, and its students.
- Maintain products for cleaning and in specified areas as required and recommended by Summit County Health Department.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

PPE is provided to employees in the form of latex or vinyl disposable gloves, safety goggles, equipment to seal plastic bags, and, for custodial staff, appropriate disinfectant cleaner, and safe equipment for disposal. All employees using PPE must observe the following precautions:

- Wash hands immediately or as soon as feasible after removing gloves or other PPE.
- Remove PPE after it becomes contaminated and before leaving the work area.
- Used PPE may be disposed of in appropriate waste containers, storage containers, or laundry containers.
- Wear appropriate gloves and/or safety goggles when it is reasonably anticipated that there may be hand contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials, and when handling or touching contaminated items or surfaces; replace gloves if torn, punctured or contaminated, or if their ability to function as a barrier is compromised.
- Never wash or decontaminate disposable gloves for reuse. Discard immediately after use in an appropriate waste disposal bin.
- Custodial staff should wear appropriate face and eye protection when splashes, sprays, spatters, or droplets of blood or other potentially infectious materials pose a hazard to the eye, nose, or mouth.
- Remove immediately or as soon as feasible any garment contaminated by blood or other potentially infectious materials, in such a way as to avoid contact with the outer surface.

Procedures for Handling Regulated Waste

Regulated waste must be placed in containers which are closable, constructed to contain all contents and prevent leakage, and closed prior to removal to prevent spillage or protrusion of contents during handling. Bins and pails (such as a sink or bucket) must be cleaned and decontaminated as soon as feasible after visible contamination. Broken glassware that may be contaminated is only picked up using mechanical means, such as a brush and dustpan.

Procedures for Laundering Contaminated Laundry

Laundering will be performed by the custodial staff as governed by the following procedures:

- Staff should handle contaminated laundry as little as possible.
- Staff should place wet contaminated laundry in leak-proof, labeled or color-coded containers before transport.

- Staff should wear the appropriate PPE when handling and/or sorting contaminated laundry.