Immunisation Policy

Background
- While responsibility for the prevention and control of infectious diseases rests primarily with individuals, families and public health authorities, schools also have an important role to play.
- Schools are required to request and record the immunisation status of each child, i.e. primary students prior to enrolment and must follow exclusion requirements, as required.
- The Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009 require children with certain infectious diseases, and children who have been in contact with certain infectious diseases, to be excluded from school for a specified period.

Purpose
- To ensure Werribee Primary School admits eligible students.
- To help prevent and control the transmission of infectious diseases in the school.
- To ensure the school complies with DET policy and legislative requirements.

Implementation
- Please refer to the school’s Enrolment Policy and the Admission Policy for full details of the enrolment and admission processes and immunisation requirements.
- The school will support the prevention and control of transmission of infectious diseases by providing a prompt and consistent response to detected or suspected cases of disease and by being vigilant to students who may have head lice or some other public health pest.
- During an outbreak of an infectious disease, the Principal must be aware of and abide by exclusion requirements and not allow a child to attend school if:
  - they have been informed that the child is infected with an infectious disease, that requires exclusion, as described in Column 2 of Schedule 7 (the school exclusion table).
  - they have been informed that a child is a contact of a person who is infected with an infectious disease as described in Column 3 of Schedule 7 (the school exclusion table).
  - they have not been immunised against a vaccine preventable disease and are directed to do so by the Secretary and until the Secretary directs that such attendance can be resumed.

Evaluation
- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle or if guidelines change (latest DET update early September 2014).

When First Developed/Reviewed - DET School Policy Advisory Guide > A-Z Index:
October 2014

This policy was ratified by School Council on 18 October 2016

Next review Due: August 2019

References: