



Yi Hwang Academy of  
Language Excellence  
(YHALE)

**Policies and Protocols for  
Infectious Diseases**

## Introduction

Schools, by their very nature, can be considered incubators for many viral and bacterial infections. Young school-age children still have developing immune systems and are more vulnerable to common infections. Children's natural affinity for each other and school activities that promote the values of sharing, cooperation and collaboration also add to the potential spread of infections.

YHALE follows specific policies and protocols for students and staff who may potentially come into contact with any infectious diseases. Our school has been in contact with local health departments to stay informed for any updates regarding infectious diseases. In response to specific infectious diseases, we may ask new students enrolling in our school or students traveling or who may have relatives traveling from regions known to have been affected by a contagious disease to respond to health related questions. We will continue to work closely with our local, state, and federal public health authorities to continue to monitor new developments related to infectious diseases.

## Precautionary Tips:

- Avoid close contact with anyone who may be ill
- Wash your hands with soap often
- Do not share food or drinks with others
- Cough and sneeze into your elbow
- Use hand sanitizers and avoid touching your face with unwashed hands •

Clean and disinfect surfaces

- Remain at home if ill or experiencing any symptoms of illness
- Remain home if ill or experiencing any symptoms of illness
- Remain at home for at least 24 hours after any fever is gone

## Hand Hygiene

Hand hygiene is the single most important activity to decrease the spread of infections of all kinds. Contact with body secretions can expose school employees to bacteria and viruses that are potentially infectious to themselves and others. An effective hand hygiene program has been

proven to decrease illness and absences for both students and staff. The three necessary requirements for an effective program are:

- An accessible hand hygiene facility for all staff and students with warm water, soap and paper towels. Waterless alcohol-based hand sanitizers are also effective if there is no visible soiling on hands or under nails.
- Students and staff taking and being allowed to take the time to perform hand hygiene several times during the day (especially before lunch and snacks, after outside activities and after bathroom breaks).
- Annual instruction for staff and class discussions of proper methods for hand hygiene—using friction, washing all hand surfaces and nails, rinsing and drying well.

### Communication

Communication with parents is very important. When outbreaks of illnesses in classes or groups occur, letters may be sent home. Parents should be notified when a child becomes ill at school and assisted with referrals if healthcare is not readily available to the family.

### Education

Health education program is offered to the students and staff by healthcare technician make sure all school students and personnel understand the importance and correct procedures for controlling infections.

### Infection Prevention and Control Procedures

Whenever it is necessary to handle or clean up anything contaminated with blood or other body fluids, the following simple and effective procedures should be observed. These measures can be adopted as standard procedure for every spill or wound involving blood or other body fluids to avoid potential transmission of any communicable disease.

Essential techniques used to control infections are:

- effective hand hygiene
- using gloves and other barriers as needed

– disposing of waste appropriately

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– cleaning spills promptly and carefully.

### Outbreaks of Illness

Clusters of illnesses such as vomiting, diarrhea, fever, flu-like complaints and an unexplained rise in absenteeism should be reported to the local health department.

### The Notifiable Disease/Condition Reporting Requirements and How to Report

[dph.georgia.gov/disease-reporting](http://dph.georgia.gov/disease-reporting)

### Resources

Handwashing: Clean Hands Save Lives

[cdc.gov/handwashing](http://cdc.gov/handwashing)

