

Foster School District

Policy # 5140.1A

Universal Precautions Procedure

Universal Precautions and the provision of supplies necessary for implementing them represent the district/school's commitment to safety and prevention. Universal Precautions should be taught annually to all staff. The necessary supplies for implementing Universal precautions should be available and current.

The key to understanding and implementing Universal Precautions is to treat all visible blood and body fluids as potentially contaminated, including clothing and surfaces. Seven procedures are necessary for the implementation of Universal Precautions.

1. Disposable gloves should be worn whenever a person finds himself or herself in a position where they could be touching any other person's blood, body fluids or contaminated clothing.
2. Washing hands and skin is the single most effective health precaution for all viral and bacterial exposures.
3. Properly cover all wounds, cuts, oozing sores, rashes, etc.
4. Use Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) registered disinfectant to clean up blood, body fluid spills and / or surfaces in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations.
5. Clothes soiled with blood, vomit, urine, or fecal matter should be handled while wearing disposable gloves and placed in disposable leak-proof red colored waste liner that is permanently labeled "BIO-HAZARD WASTE" and permanently labeled with universal symbol and prepared to be transported home.
6. Avoid accidental needle sticks. Needles are not to be recapped.
7. Needles and other potentially contaminated sharp items shall be discarded in a puncture resistant container (Sharps Disposal Container).

Adopted: 19 December 2006

Reviewed: September 25, 2007

Reviewed: March 27, 2012