



Policy Manual - Students - Miscellaneous

S.M.19 Epilepsy

The mission of Catholic Education in Hamilton-Wentworth, in union with our Bishop, is to enable all learners to realize the fullness of humanity of which Our Lord Jesus Christ is the mode

POLICY STATEMENT

Epilepsy is a neurological disorder resulting from sudden bursts of electrical energy in the brain. This causes "seizures" which vary in form, strength and frequency, depending on where in the brain abnormal activity is found. Epilepsy is the diagnosis and seizures are the symptoms. The term Epilepsy is a broad one that covers a large family of disorders with many different causes. Epilepsy can be caused by anything that harms the brain, such as a biochemical abnormality, infections, injury, a malformation of vessels of the brain, scars or tumours. Most children with epilepsy, however, have no brain damage and are neurologically normal.

In accordance with Ministry of Education Policy/Program Memorandum No. 161 -Supporting Children and Students with Prevalent Medical Conditions (Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes and/or Epilepsy) in Schools, it is the policy of the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board that each school within the Board's jurisdiction shall have an Epilepsy Management Plan and each student who has been diagnosed with Epilepsy shall have an Individual Epilepsy Plan of Care.

Purpose

In addressing the needs of students diagnosed with Epilepsy, the Board has two primary objectives:

- to support students to fully access school in a safe, accepting and healthy learning environment which enhances their physical, mental and spiritual well-being; and,
- to empower students, as confident and capable learners, to reach their full potential for self-management of their medical condition, according to their Individual Epilepsy Plan of Care.

To accomplish these objectives, the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board shall make every reasonable effort to:

- ensure that school board personnel are aware of which students within the school population have been diagnosed with Epilepsy; and,
- outline the procedures necessary to manage Epilepsy as well as to intervene effectively in the event of an epileptic emergency.

Responsibility

School Principals and Superintendent of Student Well-Being

Regulations

- Education Act, 1990
 - Section 264 - Duties of Teacher
 - Section 265 - Duties of Principal
- Regulation 298 - Operation of Schools – General
 - Section 11 - Duties of Principals
 - Section 20 - Duties of Teachers
- Regulation Made Under the Teaching Profession Act - Section 14(f)
- Good Samaritan Act, 2001
- Ministry of Education Policy/Program Memorandum No. 161 - Supporting Children and Students with Prevalent Medical Conditions (Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes and/or Epilepsy) in Schools, September 2018

Related Policies

S.M. 11 Allergic Reaction (Anaphylaxis Awareness)

S.M.12 Asthma; S.M.18 Diabetes

S.M.20 Administration of Prescribed Medication

Related Board Committee: Committee of the Whole

Policy Review Date:

BM Original Policy Approved 19 June 2018

Revisions: 01 February 2022

To be reviewed every three years