**Infectious Diseases Policy**

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| **Document Number** | ACC17 |
| **Version** | 0.2 Draft |
| **Scope/applies to:** | All staff, volunteers, participants, contractors and visitors |
| **Date Approved** |  |
| **Approved by** |  |

**Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to outline how Alphington Community Centre intends to prevent the transmission of infectious diseases and control the transmission of infectious diseases when a case/s is identified.

Infectious disease means diseases caused by pathogenic microorganisms, such as bacteria, viruses, parasites or fungi; the diseases can be spread, directly or indirectly, from one person to another.

**Policy**

We take seriously our duty of care to all participants, staff, volunteers and visitors. Infectious diseases may be a hazard for both workers and clients within the community sector.

The Executive Officer implements strategies designed to reduce risks to our participants, staff, volunteers and visitors - consistent with workplace health and safety obligations.

We comply with all directions from authorised public health officers and recognised medical authorities in relation to infectious diseases.

We plan for and make advance preparations for the possibility that our operations will be affected by an epidemic or pandemic.

In the event of an epidemic or pandemic, we:

* Assist people to minimise their exposure to the illness concerned
* Encourage those who have reason to believe that they are at risk to obtain a diagnosis and to seek treatment
* Support people to take reasonable precautions to prevent infection or contagion
* Provide personal protective equipment where appropriate.

In the event of an infectious disease being declared an epidemic or pandemic, we require anyone who works at, visits or volunteers at our centre to:

* Take all precautions required by the appropriate authorities
* Take any additional precautions mandated by the Committee after considering appropriate medical advice.