

# Health and Safety

## Personal Protective Equipment Policy

### Rationale

The Board has responsibility arising from the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 to ensure the health and safety of all workers, students, visitors and contractors by complying with relevant health and safety legislation, regulations, New Zealand standards and approved codes of practice. This includes the provision and use of personal protective equipment (PPE), where appropriate.

### Purpose

To protect persons in the workplace from risks which may impact one's health and safety.

### Scope

This policy applies to and is to be followed by everyone at the school including all staff and students, workers, contractors, temporary workers, volunteers, and visitors.

PPE provides protection as a means of hazard and risk control when all other control measures cannot adequately eliminate or minimize risks to a worker's health and safety and will be used in conjunction with other controls and preventative measures, as appropriate.

### Guidelines

- a) NHS will meet the requirements of WorkSafe NZ Regulations, as well as Health and Safety, and Health guidelines and legislation.
- b) NHS staff, students and other persons as appropriate (e.g. visitors, or volunteers) will have access to suitable PPE when it is required, including PPE that is of a suitable size and fit to wear, and fit for purpose.
- c) PPE will meet the relevant AS/NZS compliance standards, as well as any industry- specific requirement standards.
- d) Staff and students will be trained in how to correctly use PPE, including how to wear and remove.
- e) PPE will be maintained, repaired and replaced as appropriate to ensure its in good condition, available for use when needed and continues to protect the wearer.
- f) The NHS Board may choose to withdraw staff from hazardous workplaces, on advice from medical and other experts, obviating the need for PPE.
- g) NHS staff will be consulted when decisions are made about PPE, and when proposing changes that may affect their health or safety.
- h) Staff, contractors and students will be informed of their rights and responsibilities as outlined in NHS procedures.

Adopted

September 2023

Presiding Member

Review Date

May 2026