



Safety & Universal Precautions

Albemarle County Public Schools
Transportation Services

What are Universal Precautions?

- **Universal Precautions** are the steps taken to avoid contact with bodily fluids, and treating all contact with bodily fluids as potentially infectious.



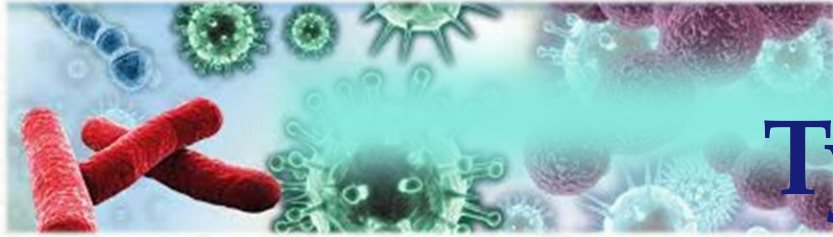
Applying Universal Precautions

- **PATHOGEN:** path·o·gen

1. A bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that can cause disease.

1. Pathogens are the first link in the chain of infection





Types of Pathogens

- **Airborne (Respiratory):** Pathogens (type of bacteria or virus) transported through the air by sneezing, laughing or coughing (or very close personal contact) These may include the Common cold, Meningitis, Chicken Pox, Tuberculosis, or Influenza.
- **Indirect:** coming in contact with pathogens left on door knobs, seats, handrails, desks, etc...
- **Direct:** coming in contact with a pathogen directly from an infected person
 - **Blood borne:** Pathogens spread through contact with infected blood or other potentially infectious body fluids. HIV and Hepatitis B are more serious infectious diseases that can be transmitted through contact with blood and other fluids.

Please Use Caution...

- School Bus Drivers and their Aides may come in contact with:
 - Vomit
 - Urine
 - Bile
 - Saliva
 - Blood



All bodily fluids should be treated as infectious. (*Pathogens are microscopic, which means you can't see them without the aid of a microscope.*)

#1 Protection...WASH YOUR HANDS!

- The most effective way to protect yourself from infectious diseases is to wash your hands as often and as thoroughly as possible.
- Use hand sanitizer
- Keep your bus clean and disinfect daily
- Wear gloves during cold and flu season
- Treat all bodily fluid as potentially infectious...take care of YOU!



Direct Contact With Bodily Fluids:

- Wounds and exposed skin that have come in contact with bodily fluids should be thoroughly washed as soon as possible with soap and water.
- Keep any open wounds on your hands and arms covered with a water proof band-aid and replace before and after each shift.



Safety Procedures For handling body fluids



1. Wear Gloves
2. Mop up spill with absorbent material
3. Clean/wash the area well! Use an antibacterial/disinfectant cleaner.
4. Dispose of gloves
5. Wash hands

Human Bites:



- **A human bite can lead to potentially serious infections.**
 - **When teeth break the skin, saliva and/or blood can enter YOUR blood stream.**
1. Immediately remove rings, bracelets, etc... Your skin may begin to swell making it necessary to cut them off later
 2. Cleanse wound thoroughly with warm soap and water for 5 minutes
 3. Cover wound with clean bandage (preferably sterile)
 4. Report & Investigate: tetanus immunization status? Hepatitis B vaccination? HIV?

Click the link below to complete the
Safety and Universal Precautions Quiz and then submit.

[Safety and Universal Precautions Quiz](#)

