

Personal protective equipment for health support procedures

Careful attention to hygiene before, during and after performing students' health support procedures and correctly using appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) will assist to reduce the transmission of infections and helps to keep students and staff safe and healthy.

For advice or training in the correct use of PPE for health support procedures, contact your [State Schools Registered Nurse](#).

Ensure that hand hygiene is carried out at the correct points of the procedure, including when putting on or taking off PPE. Staff assisting with or performing health support procedures **must wear gloves**. Staff should wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water for 40 seconds, or use hand sanitiser for 20 seconds **before** and **after**:

- administering medication
- performing the health support procedure
- using disposable PPE (gloves, gowns, masks or eye protection)
- after any exposure to any blood or body fluids
- touching high frequency touch points (for example the handles and controls of a hoist, drawer/cupboard handles)
- cleaning equipment
- handling student clothing, clothing protectors, or linen used by a student at school.

Students who perform their own health support procedures do not require PPE, but should wash their hands thoroughly with soap for 40 seconds or use hand sanitiser for 20 seconds before and after the procedure.

Further information on infection control, PPE use, and fit testing (respirator masks), can be found on the department's [Infection Control procedure](#).

Helpful links

- [5 moments of hand hygiene: when to wash \(PDF, 1.1MB\)](#)
- [Putting on PPE—A3 poster \(PDF, 295KB\)](#)
- [Taking off PPE—A3 poster \(PDF, 296KB\)](#)
- [Putting on and taking off PPE—A3 combined poster \(PDF, 570KB\)](#)
- [Putting on and taking off PPE—A4 combined poster \(PDF, 567KB\)](#)
- [Putting on and taking off PPE—A3 side by side \(PDF, 525KB\)](#)
- [Hand hygiene video: how to wash or sanitise your hands](#)

Personal Protective Equipment

The following table provides a guide for the selection of PPE that staff should use when performing students' health support procedures.

The PPE table outlines the standard and enhanced use of PPE. Decisions for enhancing PPE levels should be made locally based on advice from the student's or staff's treating health practitioner, or Queensland health.

Health Support Procedure	Level of risk of transmission of respiratory infection		
	Standard	Enhanced	
Blood glucose measurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves 	<p>The principal may escalate the PPE to “enhanced level” at any time to meet student or staff health needs, (e.g., advice from their treating health practitioner or Queensland Health.</p>
Insulin pen injection or needle and syringe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves 	
Enteral feeding (e.g. gastrostomy, nasogastric)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves 	
Urostomy care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves Plastic apron if risk of splashes (staff may choose) 	
Colostomy/ileostomy care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves Plastic apron if risk of splashes (staff may choose) 	
Clean intermittent catheterisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves Plastic apron if risk of splashes (staff may choose) 	
Continuous oxygen administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves 	

Health Support Procedure	Level of risk of transmission of respiratory infection		
	Standard	Enhanced Level	
Administration of buccal midazolam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves 	<p>The principal may escalate the PPE to “enhanced level” at any time to meet student or staff health needs, (e.g., advice from their treating health practitioner or Queensland Health.</p> <p>Note: * Respirator masks require staff to be fit tested. See Infection control procedure - guideline.</p>
Using asthma reliever medication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If coughing, then TGA approved surgical mask 	
Oral and nasal suctioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goggles Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If coughing, then TGA approved surgical mask Goggles Gloves 	
Tracheostomy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TGA approved surgical mask Goggles Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TGA approved P2/N95 (respirator) mask* Goggles Gloves 	
Applying Ventilation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TGA approved surgical mask Goggles Gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TGA approved P2/N95 (respirator) mask* Goggles Gloves 	

TGA – Therapeutic Goods Administration

Uncontrolled copy: Refer to the Department of Education Policy and Procedure Register at <https://ppr.qed.qld.gov.au/pp/managing-students-health-support-needs-at-school-procedure> to ensure you have the most current version of this document.