

POLICY ON LEARNER PREGNANCY

The purpose of this policy is

- To let learners understand the Constitution of the state.
- To let learners know that our rights go with responsibilities
- To discourage learners from engaging in premature sexual activities
- To protect learners from the risk of sexual transmitted diseases and the impact of pregnancy on their future life
- To encourage parents and guardians to teach their children healthy morals, talk about sex and sexuality, guiding them regarding sexual abstinence until marriage or the right time in life.
- To help facilitate the programmes offered by NPO community, Department of Health, and Social Development etc.
- To create a schooling environment of good moral ethos

The policy is based on these principles

- The right to education
- Prevention by means of positive interventions rather than punishment
- Protect all learners and provide them with appropriate information about reproductive health matters, to encourage responsible decisions-making
- Respect for the right of to freedom of choice, as well as respect for dignity of individual
- Support to learner-parents to help them complete their education but in a manner which takes into account the health and welfare of the newborn baby
- Respect for cultural and family values of all learners in the school by providing sufficient flexibility to allow for a range of options
- The values, mission and vision of the school which aim at excellent education based on moral principles

The guiding Acts

- South African Schools Act
- Constitution of the Republic of South Africa
- National Policy on Teenage pregnancy
- National Policy on HIV/ AIDS for learners and educators

Learner Pregnancy

- When it is evident that a learner is pregnant, the matter will be treated with great sensitivity and confidentiality
- On the discovery of a pregnancy the principal of the school should be informed

- The principal and the educator who is competent in this area (head of Life Orientation) will invite the parent(s) / guardian of the learner to the school for discussion and confirmation of the parent(s) / guardian been aware of the pregnancy.
- The principal will officially inform the school management without divulging the name and grade of the learner
- The three parties (school, parent/guardian, and learner) will then facilitate access to counselling by professionals after meeting with the learner and the parent(s) / guardian
- Should a learner become pregnant as a result of sexual abuse, incest or rape, the principal will follow the procedures with the appropriate quarters. If an educator is responsible, the educator will be suspended immediately pending investigation and his appointment will be terminated if found guilty.
- If another learner from our school is responsible, the parent(s) / guardian will be notified immediately. If the learner is from another school, the principal of the school will be informed.
- A written agreement will be entered into with the parent(s) / guardian of the male learner and the school management body about appropriate behaviour, which conforms, to the school's code of conduct.
- The school do not admit learners who are pregnant from their previous school; if it is discovered that the learner is pregnant after admission and the doctors report states that she was pregnant before admission, the learner will be suspended for providing wrong information
- The school will advise the parents to withdraw the learner for the period of pregnancy
- The learner can retake the year after delivery of the baby and she is declared fit by a medical practitioner
- The school will not allow the learner in class with the rest during lessons but can provide all the materials per request by parents.
- A written agreement will be signed by the school and the parent(s) / guardian regarding the period the learner may stay away from class and how her education can be facilitated. The school will bear no cost of damage done to her education or body; emotionally, physically or spiritually.
 1. During pregnancy, the learner attends school at her own risk
 2. The school is indemnified from accountability for any pregnancy related injuries or incidents
 3. No alternative or additional logistical arrangements can be demanded from the school
 4. No exceptions can be made regarding adherence to the school's code of conduct
- The learner will not be allowed to bring the baby to school when she returns from absence of leave
- The learner, her parent(s) / guardian and the school will sign agreement of appropriate conduct on behalf of the learner.
- During examinations, the parent(s) / guardian of the pregnant learner should be at the school to wait for her and go back home with her
- The school is not responsible for inability to write any examination when pregnant



The school will do the best to teach learners the consequences of inappropriate sexual intercourse, teenage pregnancy, and immoral behaviours.

This policy has been made available to school personnel and is readily accessible to parents and learners on request.

This policy will be reviewed and updated every year.

Signed _____ Date: _____
School Management

Signed _____ Date: _____
Principal

Signed _____ Date: _____
Educator Representative

