



### **Rationale**

Federal and Provincial Legislation articulated by the British Columbia Workers Compensation Act require employers to provide a safe and healthy environment for their employees. This includes protection from exposure to hazardous materials which may cause injury or death to workers or contribute to many serious health effects. Employees are also expected to follow safety policy procedures in avoid injury in the workplace.

To address the issue of hazardous materials in the workplace, in 1988 WorkSafeBC created the Waste and Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) to provide workers with the information they need to stay safe on the job. WorkSafeBC updated the system in 2015 to comply with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals to improve communication, clarity and worker safety.

### **Policy**

Each school principal will ensure that the school has a Waste and Hazardous Information System compliant with WHMIS 2015 regulations for hazardous product classification, labelling requirements and safety data sheets. All employees shall have training and access to this information system. Each school principal is to ensure employees understand safety policy and procedures in order to avoid injury in the workplace.

### **Regulation**

Each school principal will ensure a Safety Program is in place, including understanding of Hazardous Materials and WHMIS Program, which includes:

- Appropriate control measures in place to protect health and safety.
- An up-to-date WHMIS manual that includes current safety data sheets (required to be reviewed every three years).
- Hazardous products properly labelled (including all decanted products).
- Workers trained in the hazards and safe use of products they will encounter.
- Maintaining education and training records for workers who work with or may be exposed to a hazardous product.



Island Catholic Schools

## EMERGENCIES

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### HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/ WHMIS/SAFETY 1003

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References: WorksSafe BC <a href="https://www.worksafebc.com/en">https://www.worksafebc.com/en</a> WHMIS <a href="http://whmis.org/">http://whmis.org/</a> Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety <a href="https://www.ccohs.ca/">https://www.ccohs.ca/</a>	Approved
Cross-reference:	Date Approved: June 1994
	Date(s) Revised: June 22, 2021