

29 June 2009

Dear Parent

I write to advise you that we have been informed that one of our students is suspected of having Swine Flu. This student is currently away from school, being treated, and is doing absolutely fine.

Although there is no need for alarm, it is important that I bring this matter to your attention, so that you can be vigilant in terms of your child's and your family's health. I have contacted the Local Authority and the Health Protection Agency for the most up-to-date guidance and the advice is very clear and is as follows:

- 1) There is absolutely no need to close the school at present. School closure would be agreed by the Local Authority if the Health Protection Agency advised that it was necessary.
- 2) School should operate as normal. Other schools in the locality with similar situations have continued with 'business as usual'.
- 3) If anyone starts to show flu-like symptoms, they should contact their doctor or NHS Direct.
- 4) All members of the community should be vigilant about their health & also very particular about hygiene relating to cold / flu symptoms. They must seek advice if concerned, use tissues when sneezing and coughing and wash hands regularly.

Obviously this is a serious matter but as you may have seen in the media, the recommended actions have been downgraded as the effects of the virus have been milder than feared.

As you can see, the advice is very clear and basically relates to adopting a measured and common sense approach. All information available strongly indicates that there is no cause for alarm whatsoever. If circumstances change in any way, I will advise you immediately. Please ensure that we have up-to-date contact details which will facilitate immediate contact should this be necessary. Any change or updates should be communicated to our School Office.

Yours sincerely

Ian Hylan
Headteacher