



HOLYWELL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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FM/TW

7th July 2009

Dear Parents / Carers

SWINE FLU

Today, the school has been informed of a confirmed case of swine flu. We have taken advice from the NHS and the Health Protection Agency. We will continue operating normally, but this letter is to remind you of some facts concerning swine flu.

This advice has come directly from the NHS:

It is important to realise that the great majority of cases of swine flu have not been severe. As with any illness, children suffering from possible swine flu should not attend school and they should come back to school only when completely recovered. In many cases the child might be expected to be off school for a few days.

Currently, the diagnosis of swine flu must be made by a doctor so you would need to phone your GP (rather than visiting the practice) if you felt you or your child has this condition. NHS Direct can also provide advice on 0845 4647 or on the website www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

General advice can also be found on the Swine Flu information line on 0800 1513 513.

The most common symptoms of swine flu are: high temperature, accompanied by two or more of the following: cough, sore throat, runny nose, pain in the limbs or joints, headache.

Over the coming months, do please make sure you and your family follow the general hygiene advice that the government has issued:

- Cover nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, using a tissue.
- Dispose of tissues promptly and carefully.
- Maintain good basic hygiene e.g. washing hands frequently with soap and water to reduce the spread of the virus from your hands.

In school we have established procedures for dealing with hygiene issues. Every classroom has extra tissues for the children. Class teachers and lunchtime supervisors have been provided with a hand sanitiser (called H2O Alcohol Free Hand Sanitiser) and/or ESENSE Handwash to use if and when children sneeze. Liquid soap dispensers are in all school toilets in order to help prevent the spread of any germs.

The advice from the Local Authority, the NHS and the Health Protection Agency is for the school to remain open for “business as usual”. This will always be my intention. Please remember to look at the school website for any information www.holywellprimary.com Please do not keep your child at home unless he/she is ill. Please notify school if you have a CONFIRMED diagnosis of swine flu.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely

Mrs F Millett
Headteacher