



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局

Education Bureau

Government Secretariat, The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

本局檔號 Our Ref.: EDB(SD_CT)ADM/20/05/1(1)

電話 Telephone:

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To: Supervisors/Principals of all Schools

Dear Supervisor/Principal,

Guarding Against Human Swine Influenza and Other Communicable Diseases

With the commencement of the new school year, we would like to remind schools again to keep the school campuses clean to enable students to learn in a safe and hygienic environment. Schools should also carry out necessary preventive and administrative measures in guarding against human swine influenza and other communicable diseases by making reference to the advice from this Bureau together with the guidelines from the Centre for Health Protection (CHP), Department of Health as contained in our letters of 20 July and 24 August 2009. The aforesaid letters and CHP's guidelines could be browsed via the following path of EDB's webpage.

EDB Homepage > School Administration > Administration > Prevention of Flu & Other Communicable Diseases in Schools > 1. Prevention of Human Swine Influenza > Guidelines

According to past experience, outbreaks of communicable diseases occur in schools from time to time. To minimize the spread of the diseases, schools should pay attention to the absence of students and promptly report to the Central Notification Office of Department of Health for epidemiological investigation and outbreak control if there is a suspected outbreak of communicable disease in schools (for example, three or more students in the same class develop symptoms of respiratory tract infections in succession within a short time; or two or more students in the same class develop symptoms of hand, foot and mouth disease).

If schools consider that an increasing trend of influenza infected cases may warrant class suspension, before arriving at any decision, schools should consult CHP and confirm the situation with the respective School Development Section/Joint Office for Pre-primary Services prior to notifying parents of the related arrangements.

Schools should have reviewed the relevant crisis management procedures so that they are well prepared for implementation of various contingency measures in case of class suspension due to the outbreak of any communicable disease. Schools should set up a mechanism for collecting the personal and contact information of students/staff members and get parents' prior consent to the release of such information to CHP and relevant department for effective implementation of control measures against communicable diseases.

Schools should also note that CHP has updated their guideline on schools' extra-curricular activities and uploaded it to the CHP's website. The corresponding parts of the "Handbook on Prevention of Human Swine Influenza in Schools" have been revised for schools' reference or action. Schools can browse or download the "HSI Pandemic Mitigation Phase: Guideline on Extra-Curricular Activities" and the revised handbook via the path of EDB's webpage listed above.

For assistance and enquiries, please contact your respective Senior School Development Officers/Pre-primary Services Officers.

Yours sincerely,



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for Secretary for Education