



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:

11 June 2009

To: Supervisors/Principals of all Secondary Schools (including the Private Independent School, ESF Schools and International Schools) and Special Schools (Schools for Social Development with secondary section only)

Dear Supervisor/Principal:

Preventing the Spread of Human Swine Influenza in Schools
Special Administrative Arrangements for Secondary Schools
During Class Suspension in Primary Schools

A local case of human swine influenza (HSI) (or referred to as influenza A/H1N1) was confirmed on 10 June. It was further confirmed as the first local HSI case with no identifiable link on 11 June. According to the criteria for class suspension promulgated before, this Bureau has announced territory-wide suspension of classes for 14 days among kindergartens, kindergarten-cum-child-care centres, primary schools (including private independent schools, international schools and schools under the English Schools Foundation) and special schools (except Schools for Social Development with secondary section only) from 12 June (Friday) to 25 June 2009 (Thursday). We will pay attention to the situation and make review as appropriate. Please note that under the existing circumstances, all secondary schools (including Schools for Social Development with secondary section only) will remain in session.

Schools are requested to note that if an individual secondary school is verified by the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of having a confirmed case of HSI, the school concerned should suspend classes for 14 days. The school should keep in close contact with EDB and CHP and review the class suspension arrangements taking into account subsequent development.

To strengthen the precautionary measures against the spread of HSI in schools, please refer to the “Guidelines on the Prevention and Management of Human Swine Influenza in Schools” issued by the CHP and the “Handbook on Prevention of Human Swine Influenza in Schools” compiled by EDB to duly implement various hygienic measures and keep the campus clean. Please also remind parents to attend to their children’s personal hygiene and to keep their home clean.

Besides, schools should consult parents in advance regarding arrangements of large scale activities and to consider whether adjustments to the programmes have to be made. Please refer to the guidelines set out by the Department of Health (DH) when planning and organising large scale activities:

http://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/Guidelines%20for%20Organizers_20090522_e.pdf

Details on arrangements for tests/examinations and school places allocation for secondary schools, are as follows:

The written assessment of Secondary 3 “Territory-wide System Assessment” (TSA) as scheduled on 23 and 24 June would not be conducted or re-scheduled to other dates if there is a territory-wide suspension of the relevant classes during the aforesaid assessment dates. If only individual secondary school is required to suspend classes on 23 and 24 June, the TSA for the affected school would be cancelled without postponement, while other secondary schools not under class suspension would have the assessment conducted as scheduled.

As regards the Pre-Secondary 1 Hong Kong Attainment Test, it would be postponed to mid-September if territory-wide class suspension of secondary schools is in effect on 14 July (the scheduled date for the Test). Details will be announced separately.

The 2009 Secondary School Places Allocation (SSPA) results will be released on 7 July and registration of Secondary One students will also be conducted on 9 and 10 July as scheduled. On the day of announcing the 2009 SSPA results, if classes for primary schools have yet to be resumed, students are not required to collect their allocation slips and admission slips in person and their parents/guardians/authorized persons would do it on their behalf. As for registration, students are not required to complete the registration procedures at their allocated secondary schools in person and their parents/guardians/authorized persons could do it on their behalf.

We will release the latest information on HSI from time to time. Schools are advised to pay attention to the EDB website. For enquiries or requests for support during class suspension, please contact your respective Senior School Development Officer/Pre-primary Services Officer.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Y F Lee', written in a cursive style.

(Y F LEE)

for Secretary for Education