

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (11) in DH CDB/8/27/1 Pt. 25

8 January 2026

Dear Principal / Person-in-charge,

End of Summer Influenza Season in Hong Kong

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health today (8 January) announced the end of the summer influenza season which started in early September last year. Schools should remain vigilant and continue to advise students and staff to maintain personal, hand and environmental hygiene against respiratory tract infections. The normal practice on identification of students with fever in your school can be resumed. The CHP has issued guidelines to schools on prevention of communicable diseases which can be accessed at:

http://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/guidelines_on_prevention_of_communicable_diseases_in_schools_kindergartens_kindergartens_cum_child_care-centres_child_are_centres.pdf.

To prevent outbreaks of respiratory infections, students with fever (oral temperature higher than 37.5°C, or ear temperature higher than 38°C), regardless of the presence of respiratory symptoms, should not be allowed to attend school. Staff should be alert of their own conditions and should refrain from work if they have fever or respiratory symptoms.

If you notice an increase in fever or respiratory symptoms among students or staff, please report promptly to our Central Notification Office (Tel: 2477 2772; Fax: 2477 2770; Email: diseases@dh.gov.hk) for prompt epidemiological investigations and appropriate control measures. For the latest information on influenza activity, please refer to the "COVID-19 & Flu Express" (<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/resources/29/100148.html>).

Although the summer influenza season is over, influenza activity may rise again as the weather gradually turns colder in the first quarter of this year and with the winter influenza season approaching. Those who have not yet received seasonal influenza vaccination (SIV) (including those who contracted influenza during the recent summer influenza season) should receive SIV promptly to guard against other circulating virus strains during the upcoming winter influenza season and reduce the risk of severe illness and death from infection. For schoolchildren who have not participated in the SIV School Outreach Programme, parents should bring them to private doctors participating in the Vaccination Subsidy Scheme for vaccination as soon as



possible.

In addition, members of the public should not overlook other respiratory pathogens, and should always maintain good personal, hand and environmental hygiene for prevention of various respiratory tract infections.

Thank you for your unfailing support in prevention and control of communicable diseases.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Leung Yiu-hong', written in a cursive style.

(Dr LEUNG Yiu-hong)
for Controller, Centre for Health Protection
Department of Health