



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.: ( ) in EDB(COA)ADM/60/1/1Pt.6

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19 March 2010

To: Supervisors/Principals of all Schools

Dear Supervisor / Principal,

**Be Vigilant to Guard Against the Spread of Influenza in Schools**

Hong Kong has entered the peak season for seasonal influenza. According to the latest data from the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH), there is an increasing number of influenza-like illness outbreaks in schools, mainly consisting of human swine influenza (HSI) and influenza B. To guard against the spread of influenza and other respiratory communicable diseases in schools, we should always stay vigilant and keep the school premises clean and hygienic.

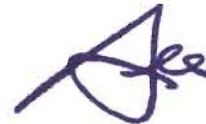
To get well prepared, schools should review from time to time their contingency measures and establish an effective communication mechanism with staff to facilitate exchange of important messages at all times (including after school hours).

Maintaining close communication with parents is also crucial. Schools should keep disseminating to parents the latest information on prevention of influenza and other communicable diseases issued by this Bureau and CHP. Parents should be reminded to continue to check their children's body temperature every day before sending them to schools, record the reading and sign the temperature record sheets, which should be returned to the schools.

If suspected outbreak of respiratory illnesses is noticed, schools should report to the Central Notification Office of DH (Fax: 2477 2770; Tel: 2477 2772) as soon as possible by completing the Notification Form, and forward a copy of the Notification Form by fax to their respective Regional Education Officers/ Joint Office for Pre-primary Services. To facilitate schools to get well prepared, the CHP issued a letter titled "Arrival of the Peak Season for Influenza and Increase in RSV Activity in Hong Kong" on 18 March 2010 to remind all schools to keep vigilance and take appropriate measures against possible outbreaks of respiratory infections in schools. The letter is enclosed for your reference. Schools should follow and implement all the hygienic and preventive measures as advised by CHP.

This Bureau will continue to keep in close contact with DH and release latest information on influenza and other communicable diseases to schools. For enquiries, please contact your respective Senior School Development Officers / Pre-primary Services Officers.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Y F Lee', with a stylized flourish at the end.

(Y F LEE)

for Secretary for Education