

6th July, 2009.

Dear Parent,

### **Swine Flu Information**

We were informed, on Sunday, that a case of swine flu has been diagnosed within the school community. We now know of 13 presumed cases, which are being treated at present and this affects both children and staff in the Infants and Juniors. **If your child is well we are expecting them at school.**

It is important for parents to note that the majority of cases from this particular strain of flu will experience only mild symptoms and there is no cause for concern. To provide further assurance we are enclosing an information leaflet for you to read and keep for future reference.

Please would you also note the following government guidelines;

In line with current guidelines and a statement issued by government on Friday, the school will not close. Any individual having swine flu symptoms should contact NHS Direct or their GP by telephone. This is particularly important with children under 5 and pregnant ladies.

### **Transmission**

Flu is transmitted through droplets from coughing and sneezing and direct or indirect contact with infected people. The virus can survive, and be transferable, for up to 24 hours on hard surfaces and 15 minutes on soft furnishings. Once on hands the virus survives for 5 minutes.

### **Control measures**

The main control measures rely on good hygiene:

- Cover nose and mouth with a tissue every time you cough or sneeze. Dispose of used tissues carefully, in a sealed bin bag.
- Wash hands frequently with liquid soap and water for a minimum of 30 seconds or use alcohol based gels/solutions.
- Children will be reminded of this and these measures are already implemented rigorously in school.

### **The symptoms of flu**

- Fever, dry cough and abrupt onset
- Headache, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, aching muscles and joints and extreme tiredness also possible

If you suspect your child has flu, keep them at home and seek medical advice as stated. Individuals, including siblings who are not showing symptoms should continue their daily routine and attend school.

I thank you for your assistance and support at this time.

Yours sincerely,

C.A. Middleditch  
Headteacher.