



FAIRLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

Pound Avenue
Stevenage
Hertfordshire
SG1 3JA

15th July 2009

Dear Parents/Carers

SWINE FLU UPDATE

Hertfordshire Primary Care Trust is reporting a steady increase in the number of cases of swine flu in Hertfordshire. Many schools have been affected and we are continuing to monitor the situation closely.

We are aware that some members of our school have a case of influenza A type H1N1 (also known as 'swine flu').

The advice from the Health Protection Agency, the local NHS primary care trust and local authority is that no other actions are necessary and the school will remain open as usual.

If you or your child develops symptoms of flu-like illness the advice of the Health Protection Agency is to stay at home and contact NHS Direct by phone (0845 46 47) or via the website nhsdirect.nhs.uk, follow the swine flu symptom checker and then phone your GP. Each case will be assessed and, if necessary, treatment will be provided.

If you have children, siblings, parents or members of your family that have been in contact with cases, the HPA is currently advising that no action is needed beyond normal vigilance if no flu symptoms are present.

The school is working closely with the Health Protection Agency, NHS colleagues and the local authority to monitor the situation.

Good basic hygiene can help to reduce transmission of all viruses, including swine flu. This includes:

- Covering your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, using a tissue when possible.
- Disposing of dirty tissues promptly and carefully.
- Washing your hands frequently with soap and water to reduce the spread of the virus from your hands to your face or to other people.
- Cleaning hard surfaces (such as door handles) frequently using a normal cleaning product.
- Making sure your children follow this advice.

For more information on swine flu call the national information line on 0800 1 513 513. Alternatively, visit the Health Protection Agency website at www.hpa.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Robert Staples
HEADTEACHER