

THE LONG EATON SCHOOL

A Foundation School and
A Specialist College for Science and Applied Learning
"An Outstanding School" (OFSTED 2006, 2009)

The Long Eaton School
Thoresby Road
Long Eaton
Nottingham
NG10 3NP



Science



APPLIED
LEARNING



Eco Schools



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



NC/tb – 10 July 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian

You may recall, from my letter of 1 May, that the school has been following recommended procedures for infection control from the DCSF since the first concerns were raised about the potential for a swine flu pandemic.

Students all received a presentation from their form tutors, and we have also implemented an enhanced cleaning regime, which includes regular disinfection of door handles, telephones and other key areas, and more frequent cleaning across the site, including computer keyboards. Alcohol-based hand-cleaning gels have been made available for students' use in key areas, including the dining room, and we have provided boxes of tissues in classrooms, although we would expect all students to have their own wherever possible. There are also posters up around the site encouraging safe and healthy practices, including regular hand-washing.

I am aware that a number of local schools have now received confirmation that pupils or members of staff have become infected with swine flu. We are yet to be informed of a confirmed infection ourselves, although with testing no longer being carried out routinely, we may not be informed.

We have taken advice from the Health Protection Unit and we want to reassure you that there is no need for concern. This swine flu is proving to be a mild disease, and most affected children/adults are poorly for just a few days. Although in some schools it appears to have spread quite rapidly between the children, there is now evidence that this flu is spreading through the community outside schools. For this reason, closing the school is very unlikely to help stop the spread of the flu virus, but please be assured that we will use all available means, including our website and our system for contacting parents by SMS and email, to keep you fully informed.

We ask that you keep a close eye on your child and if they have symptoms of flu to keep them at home, let us know at the school, and contact your own GP or NHS Direct (0845 4647 or www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk) for advice. The symptoms of flu are:

- Fever, usually of 38°C or above, **plus** two of the following symptoms
- Headache
- Respiratory symptoms such as cough or runny nose
- Muscle aches and pains
- Vomiting/diarrhoea.

Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell with flu.

Yours faithfully

Neil Calvert
Headteacher

Headteacher: Mr N Calvert, BSc Hons, NPQH
Tel: 0115 9732438 Fax: 0115 9737349

E-Mail: info@longeaton.derbyshire.sch.uk Web: www.longeaton.derbyshire.sch.uk