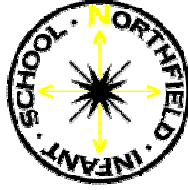


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'All Moving Forward Together'

Dear parents and carers

You will be aware of recent outbreaks of "swine flu" around the world, and the possibility of a spread of such an illness causing a pandemic.

At a recent meeting of Driffield Area headteachers, we felt it appropriate to draw up a common response and keep parents informed in the context of national advice and guidance. This message is being sent out to parents with pupils at local infant and primary schools and at Driffield School.

We have been informed by government that the illness can be passed on particularly quickly by young people in a school environment, and it may be necessary to close schools in order to prevent the disease spreading. It may also be necessary to close schools if the number of staff absent due to illness reaches such a level that pupil safety is jeopardised.

If schools have to be closed (and subsequently reopened), information will be given in the local media, Radio Humberside being the most commonly available.

Hopefully this will not be necessary, but in any case there are a few precautions which we can take to limit any effect that the pandemic may have. These precautions are fairly obvious, but we repeat them here as a reminder;

1. cover the nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing, and dispose of used tissues promptly
2. avoid non-essential travel or large crowds
3. maintain good basic hygiene (washing hands frequently with soap and water)
4. clean hard surfaces, such as kitchen surfaces and door handles, regularly.

If a pupil is taken ill at school, we would need them to be collected promptly to reduce the chance of infecting others. Please ensure that the contact details held by the school are up to date.

Finally, if your child does exhibit flu-like symptoms, please do not send them to school. We would also be grateful if you could inform us of any confirmed cases of flu in the family.

We hope that this planning proves unnecessary, but feel sure that you will understand the need for preparation.

Lynn Wilson
Headteacher