



ELIAS PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Where Potential Becomes Reality

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Dear Parents/ Guardians of Eliasians

INFLUENZA A (H1N1)

1. You would have heard about the global Influenza A (H1N1) outbreak and Singapore moving into the Orange alert level. The symptoms of Influenza A (H1N1) in people are similar to the symptoms of seasonal influenza. An early symptom is high fever, which is followed by cough, sore throat, runny nose, and sometimes breathlessness a few days later.
2. As of 3 May 2009, there are no human cases of Influenza A (H1N1) reported in Singapore. However, this is a rapidly evolving situation, and there is a real possibility that such cases may surface in Singapore. We are actively monitoring the situation and have been working closely with the Ministry of Education (MOE) and Ministry of Health (MOH) for guidance in this situation.
3. It is important to be vigilant and alert to this situation, but also to be calm. In Elias Park Primary School (EPPS), we have procedures in place to help prevent the spread of diseases amongst our staff and students. These include good personal hygiene practices, keeping our school premises clean and twice-daily temperature-taking.
4. With effect today, all staff and students will be involved in twice-daily temperature-taking until further notice. It would help if your child(ren) take their temperature before leaving home for school daily. P6 students above 12 yrs-old who register temperatures of 37.6 °C and above, and all other students 12 years and below with temperatures 37.9 °C and above, will be asked to consult their doctors and to stay at home until they have fully recovered. Temperature screening for all visitors to EPPS will also be instituted. Information on school visitors, including the date and time of visit, personal particulars and contact number of visitors, will be recorded. This is to facilitate contact tracing when the need arises.
5. MOH has announced that those with a travel history to Mexico over the past seven days will be quarantined for seven days on their return to Singapore and undergo phone surveillance for symptoms for Influenza A (H1N1). In addition, school staff and students who return from other affected areas (i.e. the United States and the state of Nova Scotia in Canada as of 2 May), will be required to undergo leave of absence from the school for 7 days.
6. Here is some basic information on how your children can best protect themselves from flu infection :
 - a. Maintain a high standard of hygiene;
 - b. Wash hands with soap and water before eating and after going to the toilet;
 - c. Cover mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing. It is advisable to cough into a tissue, not into the hands, to avoid the spread of germs on the hands;
 - d. Avoid touching eyes or nose as this can spread infection from hands to the upper respiratory system;
 - e. Do not share eating utensils, towels, etc; and
 - f. If your child is unwell, you should take him/her to see a doctor. He/she should stay at home and avoid contact with others as much as possible.
7. We will continue to keep you updated of new developments. More information on Influenza A (H1N1) can be found at <http://www.flu.gov.sg> or <http://www.moh.gov.sg>.

**NEW PROCEDURES FOR STUDENT ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL
(to be implemented with immediate effect from Tuesday, 5 May 2009)**

8. Eliasians who walk to school can enter the school either through Gate C (which is the side gate near the canteen), or Gate D (which is the back gate). Please note that no parent/ guardian will be allowed beyond these two gates unless (s)he has a special pass issued by EPPS for a child with special needs.

9. To safeguard Eliasians from unnecessary exposure to the H1N1 virus, only cars of staff members will be allowed entry into the school compound. If you drive your child(ren) to school daily, please drive into the HDB Driveway along the classroom block of EPPS, and allow him/ her to alight at the car drop off/ pick up point beside the RC Multi-Purpose Hall (MPH) beside Blk 517, Pasir Ris St 52. This covered linkway is connected to the EPPS covered linkway, through Gate D. Your child will arrive safely in school, even on rainy days. For the safety of Eliasians who walk to school and enter EPPS through Gate C, parents who drive should not allow the child to alight at Pasir Ris St 52, just outside Gate C.

10. No parent/ guardian will be allowed into the school compound to wait for his/ her child(ren)'s dismissal from Tue, 5.5.2009. We do understand that you may arrive early and may have to stand outside Gate C to wait for your child(ren) in the heat of the afternoon sun/ rain. We suggest that you wait for your child(ren) at the RC MPH outside the EPPS back gate, Gate D. We are aware that it would mean you have to walk further if you stay in the HDB blocks in front of the school, but waiting at the RC MPH would ensure that you are protected from the hot sun and the wet rain. If you decide to wait for your child(ren)'s dismissal at the RC MPH as suggested, please instruct them accordingly, so that there will be no confusion about the change in venue from tomorrow.

SCHOOL EXAMINATION POLICY FOR SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENTS (SA1 & SA2) 2009

11. We want to remind all parents/ guardians that in the interest of the EPPS staff and student population, students who are not well will **NOT** be allowed to sit for the examination even if they turn up in school; their parents will be asked to take them home. Students who have to be taken home immediately after the end of the examination paper because they do not feel well will be considered unfit to take the examination.

12. Please contact the school if you need any clarification. We will be happy to assist you.

Yours in Partnership of Eliasians' Safety,

Mrs Wong Siew Shan
Principal