

Thursday 4th June 2009

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Re: Update Swine Flu Containment Measures

NSW Health's Director of Communicable Diseases Branch, Dr Jeremy McAnulty, today said that in response to Victoria lifting its pandemic alert level to 'sustain', it had become necessary to review NSW's human swine influenza containment strategy.

"It is important that we continue to do everything possible to delay the onset of person-to-person transmission in our state and to that end, NSW Health is announcing today enhanced containment measures for our schools.

"From tomorrow, children who have travelled to greater metropolitan Melbourne will be required to stay away from school for seven days after their return to NSW. This is the same policy that has been in place for overseas travellers returning from countries affected by human swine influenza. We continue to ask that these precautionary measures also be applied to children who attend day care as the spread of infection amongst younger children can often be at a higher rate than amongst adults.

In Victoria, the elevated 'sustain' alert level will mean a more targeted use of isolation and quarantine measures.

NSW Health has increased the range of information and resources available on its website for both consumers and clinicians. This is quickly accessible by going to **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.** and clicking on the 'Swine Flu Information' button.

Further information is available from the Swine Flu hotline on 180 2007 and at the NSW Health website: www.health.nsw.gov.au

For a range of health information, go online to www.health.nsw.gov.au

If you have any further questions with regards your child in care, please do not hesitate to contact me on 02 8968 1500.

We thank you for your understanding and cooperation

Kind regards

Alison Dunn