

Dear Parents,

Guard Against the Spread of Scarlet Fever and Other Communicable Diseases in Schools

According to the information from the Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health, there are recent signs of increased scarlet fever activity again in the recent two months after the decrease of the activity from upsurge since July last year. Our school would like to remind parents to stay vigilant and continue to implement proper preventive measures to guard against the spread of scarlet fever and other communicable diseases in school after the Chinese New Year holiday.

To protect students' health, please take note of and implement the following measures:

- Maintain good personal and environmental hygiene, keep good ventilation;
- Keep hands clean and wash hands properly;
- Wash hands when they are dirtied by respiratory secretions, e.g., after sneezing;
- Cover nose and mouth while sneezing or coughing and dispose of nasal and mouth discharge properly;
- Provide children with handkerchiefs or tissue papers and remind them not to share towels or tissue papers with others;
- Before sending children to school, measure their body temperature and record the reading in the student's handbook;
- If children have influenza-like symptoms of fever, coughing, sore throat etc, they should wear a mask and seek medical advice as soon as possible. **Please keep sick children at home until symptoms have improved and fever has subsided. Then, take rest for at least 2 more days before returning to school;**
- Inform school immediately if children are sick or have been admitted to hospital for surveillance;
- Co-operate with schools by picking up children not feeling well from school and consulting the doctor immediately.

We have also urged the drivers of school buses/nanny vans and escorts not to drive/board these vehicles and make suitable arrangements if they run a fever or have any infectious disease symptoms. School and parents will be immediately informed.

For effective prevention of communicable diseases, we have to be vigilant and strengthen personal and environmental hygiene. Parents' support is important and forms an integral part in combating communicable diseases. We would like to appeal to parents again for collaboration in order to maintain a clean and healthy household environment. Please also remind your children to pay attention to personal hygiene and to take all necessary precautionary measures against communicable diseases.

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