18th November 2009

Dear Parents,

Further to our letter of the 8th November we would like to reiterate that MBIS will be reopening immediately following the Eid El Adha on the 1st December.

As a result of our ongoing liaison with NCBIS, CAC and BISC we are able to inform you of the latest advice, from the Government Departments responsible for H1N1 in schools, in the event that a case is confirmed in school.

- If a pupil/pupils in one class are confirmed in a government authorised lab, the class of the infected pupil/pupils is to close for a period of two weeks. The classroom is to be disinfected in preparation for their return.

- If a pupil/pupils in more than one class in any Key Stage becomes infected and the infection is confirmed by a government authorised lab, then that particular Key Stage is to close for a period of two weeks. All classrooms are to be disinfected in preparation for their return.

- School closure is only required when the virus is confirmed by an authorised lab. Unconfirmed cases or cases confirmed by an unauthorised lab are to be used only to share information with the parent population to prevent further outbreaks.

- Siblings of any student who has tested positive in an authorised lab will also be required to stay at home for the two week period.

Testing does not need to occur in mild to moderate cases (fever of 38 degrees centigrade or higher with or without other symptoms such as coughing, sneezing, headaches, etc.)

Testing is now only recommended in cases when the condition is severe (fever and flu-like symptoms accompanied by shortness of breath, chest pain).

We would encourage parents to continue their efforts to follow the recommended good health and hygiene practices, including keeping children who are sick or exhibit flu like symptoms at home.

If parents have any queries regarding their children's symptoms or testing please contact one of the school nurses for advice.

Thank you, again for your cooperation and understanding regarding these arrangements and keeping MBIS healthy and open.

Regards,
Barbara Flynn
Bursar