

Swine Flu Information

Dear parents,

2 children in Y6 have swine flu. There is no need to panic; children should still come to school unless they have flu like symptoms (e.g. high temperature). See Government advice below.

Schools

There have been cases of swine flu in your child's school but it has remained open. Should you send your child in?

While schools and childcare providers remain open, parents are strongly advised to continue to send their children in - unless they have any symptoms of flu. Parents will be advised if their child's school or childcare is to close and what to do then.

Your child has a history of medical problems. Is it safe for them to go to school while there have been cases of swine flu there? And are there other precautions that you should take?

Your child should continue to attend school or setting unless they have any flu-like symptoms. If they display any symptoms you should keep them at home and, given their other medical conditions, you should contact your GP for advice and treatment as soon as possible.

Symptoms

Patients with swine flu typically have a fever or a high temperature (over 38°C / 100.4°F) and two or more of the following symptoms:

- unusual tiredness, headache, runny nose, sore throat, shortness of breath or cough loss of appetite, aching muscles, diarrhoea or vomiting

As with any sort of influenza, how bad and how long the symptoms last will depend on treatment and the patient's individual circumstances.

Most cases reported in the UK have been relatively mild, with those affected starting to recover within a week.

The National Pandemic Flu Service

A National Pandemic Flu Service has been launched. This will free up GPs so they can focus their efforts on helping those in at risk groups and patients with other illnesses.

If any of the below apply, contact your GP directly - do not use the National Pandemic Flu Service. You are pregnant, you have a sick child under one year old, your child has a serious underlying illness, your child's condition suddenly gets much worse, your child's condition is still getting worse after five days

Their contact details are 0800 151 3513 or www.nhs.uk