

6 August 2009

Dear Parents

In the last hour we have been informed that one of our girls has been diagnosed as having been affected by the H1N1 virus. Please find attached a letter from the Minister of Education providing information about this virus.

I urge parents not to panic but to apply strict precautionary measures.

1. Most cases of confirmed swine flu in South Africa have been uncomplicated and of limited duration, and most have been treated at home.
2. There is no need for parents to keep girls out of school "in case they get swine flu", nor is there any need for girls who have been in contact with someone who has flu to take any prophylactics.
3. Should your daughter develop flu-like symptoms (eg: high fever, muscle aches, sore throat, runny nose, cough, vomiting, diarrhoea, stiffness in the joint) please consult a doctor, who is likely to prescribe suitable medication and home isolation for seven days after the onset of the symptoms. This treatment is in accordance with the guidelines of the NICD (National Institute for Communicable Diseases).

All staff have been informed to look out for girls who show signs of developing any of the symptoms listed above and to contact parents immediately if they have any concerns.

We will continue to monitor the situation carefully and keep you informed should the situation change. For further information, look on www.ipafoundation.co.za.

Yours sincerely

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DM BERRY (MRS)
HEADMISTRESS