



26 May 2009 / 3 Sivan 5769

Dear Parents,

We have received an urgent message from the NSW Department of Health regarding the management of the Swine Influenza, in light of current verification of fresh cases in Australian schoolchildren. You may have read or heard this mentioned in news broadcasts, relating to Government schools. The request has now been extended to all independent schools. All schools have been asked to identify children and staff who have travelled to the following countries:

- **Mexico**
- **USA**
- **Canada**
- **Japan and**
- **Panama**

In order to reduce the potential exposure of others in the community, any students and staff who have travelled to the abovementioned countries are to be 'quarantined' from the school environment for a period of seven (7) days. This is the maximum incubation period for the virus. Please note, that an individual could be infectious with influenza for a period of 24 hours before the onset of any symptoms. This suggests that people who are infected could unknowingly spread the disease. The NSW Department of Health states that "*it is critical to the national effort to contain and limit the spread of the virus for this action to be taken should any staff or students meet the criteria.*" KTC seeks your co-operation in following the process below:

- 1) Please inform KTC immediately if your children have returned from travel to any of the above countries within the last seven (7) days.
- 2) If this is the case, please keep your children at home for a period of seven (7) days.
- 3) If you find any flu-like symptoms develop, you should immediately go to an Emergency Department for examination.
- 4) If they have not developed any symptoms and remain well after seven (7) days then they may return to school.

For any advice and information about the Swine Influenza please contact your local Public Health Unit - for location details of Public Health Units go to <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/publichealth/infectious/phus.asp>. If you require more information, such as Fact Sheets, these can be obtained from the NSW Department of Health website http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/publichealth/swine_flu.asp. It is essential that we all comply with this request. If we all adhere to this, then we significantly lessen the risk for not only the KTC community, but for the community at large. Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

Rabbi Dr. Noteh Glogauer
Principal

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