



8 June, 2009

**Advice to Parents on H1N1 Influenza (Human Swine Influenza)**

Dear Parent,

You may have seen media reports about the second confirmed case of Human Swine Flu in WA. Catholic Schools continue to take precautions to contain the virus based on advice from the Department of Health.

Based on new advice from the Department of Health the following now applies:

- Effective from **Thursday 5 June 2009** students and school-based staff who have recently returned to WA from Victoria or the countries of concern (Mexico, USA, Canada, Japan and Panama) will be asked to voluntarily stay away from school for a period of seven days from their date of return.
- This seven day exclusion period will now only apply where the student or staff member has travelled to Victoria or a country of concern. This exclusion does not apply to a child whose parent, relative or other close contact has returned from Victoria or a country of concern.
- The seven day exclusion period does not apply to students or staff members who were transit passengers passing through any of those areas, where the transit period is less than 24 hours nor does it apply to students and staff who returned prior to the 5 June 2009.

Please advise the school office if your child has returned from Victoria or will be going to Victoria in the near future.

If students become unwell (i.e. Fever AND either cough, sore throat, runny or blocked nose), during this period of exclusion, please contact your GP or call HealthDirect on 1800 022 222.

For further information about swine flu generally, please call the Influenza Hotline on 180 2007 or visit the Department of Health website [www.health.wa.gov.au](http://www.health.wa.gov.au). The list of countries of concern can be found on the Department of Health and Ageing website [www.healthemergency.gov.au](http://www.healthemergency.gov.au).

Thank you for your cooperation. Working together with these precautionary measures will assist us to prevent the spread of this virus.

Mr Ivan Banks  
PRINCIPAL