



## King Street Pre-school

Wesley Methodist Church, Christ's Pieces, Cambridge CB1 1LG

[www.kingstreetpreschool.org.uk](http://www.kingstreetpreschool.org.uk)

Registered charity number: 1121482

5<sup>th</sup> May 2009

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Re: Swine Flu**

*Please read the following information sent to us today from the Early Years and Childcare Service department of Cambridgeshire County Council:*

In the light of the developing situation around Swine Flu in Mexico, the US and other countries, we are forwarding you the following advice based on information available from the Health Protection Agency and NHS Cambridgeshire. For full advice, please refer to their websites below.

### **What is Swine Flu?**

Swine Flu is a respiratory disease of pigs caused by type A influenza viruses. Outbreaks of Swine Flu happen regularly in pigs but people do not normally get the virus. However, human infections can and do happen. Typically, human cases of Swine Flu happen in people who are around pigs but it is possible for Swine Flu viruses to spread from person to person. At the moment, there is still a low risk of contracting Swine Flu. Early indications are that in most cases outside of Mexico the symptoms of this illness are mild.

### **Reducing the Risk of Influenza**

General infection control and good hand hygiene can help to reduce the spread of all viruses.

- Cover your nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing, using a tissue, not a handkerchief, where possible.
- Dispose of dirty tissues promptly and carefully by binning them.
- Maintain good personal hygiene, e.g. washing hands frequently with soap and water to reduce the spread of the virus from hands to face or to other people.
- Clean hard surfaces (e.g. door handles, worktops etc) frequently using a normal cleaning product.
- Make sure your children follow this advice.

King Street Pre-school will be doing all it can to follow these guidelines. Families can support this message and practice at home.

***Please do not send children to the Pre-school who are feeling unwell.*** Efforts will be made to ensure staff and children go home if they become unwell during the morning.

If you or your child develop a feverish illness accompanied by one or more of cough, sore throat, headache and muscle aches, ***stay at home and contact your GP or seek advice from NHS Direct on 0845 4647.***

### **Closure**

If Swine Flu becomes pandemic a decision will be made as to whether the setting will need to close. King Street Pre-school may also need to be closed if staffing levels fall below a minimum level. If the setting should have to close at very short notice, parents and carers will be contacted using the contact telephone number you have provided. ***Please ensure that Dana has your current contact number.***

Should you require any further information, please look at the websites listed, or talk to Dana.

Yours faithfully,

Melissa Clark  
Chair

Website references: [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk) [www.hpa.org.uk](http://www.hpa.org.uk) [www.direct.gov.uk/swineflu](http://www.direct.gov.uk/swineflu)