

**ISLAMIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
NOTICE**

Vigilance against Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)

E/IC/SC/23/60
11th October, 2023

Dear Parents,

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health recorded a recent increase in the number of HFMD institutional outbreaks in the recent weeks.

HFMD is an infection commonly seen in children. In Hong Kong, HFMD occurs throughout the year with the usual peak season occurring from May to July. A smaller peak may also occur from October to December. Common symptoms of HFMD include fever, sore throat and skin rash over the hands and feet. Although HFMD is usually self-limiting, some patients, especially those infected with enterovirus 71 (EV71), may develop complications like myocarditis, encephalitis or poliomyelitis-like paralysis.

Maintaining good personal and environmental hygiene is the most important measure to prevent HFMD infection. **Alcohol-based handrub should not substitute hand hygiene with liquid soap and water, as alcohol does not effectively kill some viruses causing HFMD (e.g. EV71).** The CHP advises us to take the following measures to prevent outbreaks:

1. Students with HFMD should be excluded from school until fever has subsided and all the vesicles have dried and crusted.
2. Students must maintain good personal hygiene habits, especially by washing their hands properly with liquid soap before meals and after going to toilet, covering their nose and mouth while sneezing or coughing, and dispose of nasal and mouth discharge properly.
3. Avoid high risk play facilities such as ball pools.
4. When students are having holidays outside Hong Kong, they should still remember to keep their hands clean and avoid touching vesicles on hands of other sick children.
5. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surface, furniture and toilets regularly with 1 in 99 diluted household bleach (mixing 1 part of 5.25% bleach with 99 parts of water). Disinfect toys/places which are contaminated by secretions or excreta with 1 in 49 diluted household bleach.

The “Guidelines on Prevention of Communicable Diseases in Schools/Kindergartens /Kindergartens-cum-Child Care Centres /Child Care Centres” which is available at

http://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/guidelines_on_prevention_of_communicable_diseases_in_schools_kindergartens_kindergartens_cum_child_care-centres_child_are_centres.pdf

Yours sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ko Tak Yin', is written over a horizontal line.

Ko Tak Yin
Headmistress

Reply Slip

E/IC/SC/23/60

Vigilance against Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)

Dear Headmistress,

I acknowledge the above notice on the Vigilance against Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD). I will pay close attention to my child's health.

Parent's Signature: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Student's Name: _____ Class: _____

Date: _____