

School Policy on cases of Influenza at BST

The threat of the H1N1 influenza has receded over the last year, and whilst one can still contract the virus, the effects now appear less severe than before. In light of this the School's policy for all strands of influenza has been revised as follows.

This policy is based on information and instruction by Tokyo Metropolitan Government, Shibuya and Setagaya Ward Offices and is designed principally to stop influenza spreading widely in the community. The policy is as follows:

Influenza Policy:

1. If a student or any family member is diagnosed with Influenza, please notify the school office and/or the Nurse immediately.
2. A student who is diagnosed with influenza must stay at home for 5 days after the onset of symptoms and for 3 days (Nursery and Reception) or 2 days (Y1-Y12 students) after the fever has passed to ensure they do not spread the virus whilst still potentially infectious. E.g. if the fever lasts 2 days then the student can return to school after 5 days, however if the fever lasts for 4 days then the student can return after 6 or 7 days depending on their age.
3. A Certificate for Returning to School (from the BST website) should be completed and given to the school nurse at the appropriate school site when the student returns to school.
4. If we get a high number of cases in one class at the same time we will consider closing the class – the decision will be at the discretion of the appropriate Head of School and the Principal. Any student who is diagnosed with the virus while the class is closed should stay at home as per point 2 above.
5. If there are multiple class closures, we may close year groups, and, if necessary, the whole school. These decisions will be taken based on our assessment of the situation at the time.
6. If a sibling of one of our students attends a school that is closed due to Influenza, but does not have the influenza, our student can come to school. However, the sibling should not come to the school during the drop off/pick up period or for any other reason.

We are constantly monitoring the advice of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, Shibuya and Setagaya Ward Offices and the WHO and if there are changes to their advice we will revise our policy accordingly.