

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

12 June 2009

Last weekend I had the opportunity to see **“Creative Generation”**, the Education Qld event that showcases talented young artists (music, dance and singing) from state schools all around the State. We had several students performing, (James Cuskelly on Double Bass, Elizabeth Jackson on Violin and Esther Allen on French Horn) and I’m sure that despite the long hours and hard work at practice they had a ball. What an opportunity to work alongside professional entertainers as well as Queensland’s best up and coming talent. Our music teachers, Meg Robson (Strings), Karina Bryer (Brass/Percussion) and Allison Rogers (Singing) all had significant roles in the event – our students are lucky to have such talented teachers. The show will be broadcast on Chanel 10 later this year.

Last Tuesday all of our music teachers - Tony and Karina Bryer, Meg Robson and Mrs Blurton - hosted our mid year Instrumental Music Concert, to showcase our developing musical talent and the results of our recent music camp. Everyone agreed that students showed great progress and the finale was a fitting conclusion to their work so far in 2009. Congratulations and thank you to our teachers and students for all of the extra hours you put towards our Instrumental Music program. A special thank you to the HIP committee of parents who hosted the BBQ preceding the concert. We really appreciate your time preparing, shopping, cooking, serving, raffle selling, cleaning up (groan) - and for some it was on top of an exhausting week ferrying students to and from Boondall where Creative Generation rehearsed and performed. A sincere thank you from those of us who were very well fed - the sausage sizzle and chicken kebabs were deliciously warming, and the sticky date pudding just the right indulgence on a cold evening!

FROM THE PRINCIPAL (cont'd)

I wrote recently about two project concepts that I had nominated as part of the \$200,000 Building the Education Revolution **National School Pride strategy**. We hoped to **extend the art section and the Hall** to accommodate expansion in Art and Instrumental Music. Using sketches and ideas from teachers in both areas the architect assigned completed concept sketches which were submitted for cost estimates. Unfortunately these have come in at **more than double the \$200,000**, and the estimates don't include a number of fees and finishing/fit out costs. Naturally I am extremely disappointed, and searching for ways we can progress both projects, as they are both worthy and needed! I have applied for a second grant to assist with the Art space redevelopment, but we may not know the outcome of this in time for the BER project which needs to be finished this year. Realistically though, we may have to choose one of the two projects, or scale back the Hall project (the most expensive one) significantly.

Students are gearing up for the **end of semester exams**, and Year 11-12 students will be on exam block from Thursday 18 June to Tuesday 23 June. Students come for their exam sessions only during this time. Normal classes resume on Wednesday 24 June, with Year 12 students completing a full 2 day QCS practice test on 25-26 June and Year 11 students completing Work Education interviews and catch ups. Year 11 students **must** attend on Friday 26 June if they have any outstanding assessments, including Work Education.

We have been relatively free of any disruption caused by **swine flu**, with a very small number of students observing the 7 day timeout period on return from trips to Canada, US, Panama, Japan, Mexico & Victoria (a recent addition). Most staff and students remain reasonably healthy, despite the approach of the regular winter flu season. A handout of current information about swine flu is included for your consideration.

On Thursday and Friday (11-12 June) I will be attending the Annual Secondary Principals' Conference, where one of the speakers is from Finland, sharing the secrets of their success in international tests.

This will be our last newsletter for the term – have a safe winter break.

Best Wishes

Jocelyn Roberts
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES			
Wed 17/6	No Sport – Exam Week	Mon 13/7	Student Free Day
Wed 17/6	Yr 10 and Sen A Debating Round 4	Wed 15/7	Field Events (morning)
Wed 17/6	P & C Meeting 7.30pm	Wed 15/7	Winter Sport Round 6 – Boys travel - COC
Thur 18/6	Yrs 11 and 12 Exam Block until 23/6/09	Wed 15/7	P & C Meeting 7.30pm
Tues 23/6	Yr 8 Period 1 ICAS spelling & writing test	Fri 17/7	Athletics Carnival
Wed 24/6	Yrs 11 and 12 Normal classes resume	Mon 20/7	Reports issued
Wed 24/6	Winter Sport Round 5 – Girls travel - Mansfield SHS	Tues 21/7	School Development Committee 3.15pm
Thur 25/6	Yr 10 Engineering Challenge Day at school	Wed 22/7	Winter Sport Round 7 – Boys travel – Cav Road SHS
Thur 25/6	Yr 11 Work Experience Preparation and interviews	Fri 24/7	Open Morning Tour 9.15am
Thur 25/6	Yr 12 Practice QCS (compulsory for all students)	Fri 24/7	Newsletter
Fri 26/6	Yr 12 Practice QCS (compulsory for all students)		
Fri 26/6	Yr 11 Completion of Work Ed modules & catchup missed assessment		
Fri 26/6	Last day Term 2		

KALEY NORRIS TO TRAVEL TO CANADA WITH POLAR BEARS INTERNATIONAL

Congratulations to **Kaley Norris** (Year 11) who has been selected as one of Polar Bears International's Australian Arctic Ambassadors. She will travel to Churchill, Manitoba via Winnipeg in September. She will be joined by a chaperone and another student from St Stephen's College, Coomera.

Upon their arrival in Winnipeg they will be joined by students, teachers, zookeepers and scientists from across Canada, USA and Denmark. Their time in Churchill will be spent on the Tundra Buggy Lodge where they will have the opportunity to observe Polar Bears in their natural environment, see the Aurora Borealis (the northern lights) and explore a bear maternity den. It won't be all fun and games, the students will participate in an educational program conducted by a range of experts in a wide range of fields.

Congratulations also go to the students who attended the selection camp over the weekend of the 22, 23 and 24 May. Bronagh McCarthy, Hayley Finlayson and Vladica Nikic performed at a very high standard and conducted themselves in a manner that both their families and our school can be very proud of.

***Kay Anderson, Australian School Co-ordinator
for Polar Bears International***

SENIOR SCHOOLING NEWS

Industry Breakfast

'My name is Jake and I am building a house'. These were the opening words of a speech that **Jake Onley** (11T) made at an industry breakfast last week. Jake gave an insight into his role as a team member of the Apollo Tangent Project. The group of students from local high schools is building a house which will be on display at the HIA Show in July. Coupled with his TAFE course in Construction, Jake has decided that his future lies in this field of work and he was grateful for the opportunities available to him through established external partnerships between the school and other providers. The breakfast recognised industry champions who have significantly contributed to activities at school this term. It was hosted by several local high schools and representatives for a range of industry areas were present. It is anticipated that support for future major projects could be gathered from this network to benefit our students by accessing specialised training through the establishment of a Trade Training Centre.

Cherie Thompson. (MEGT), Bruce Wall and Jim Southwood (J.J. Richards) were our industry mentors, both having played an important role in assisting to develop pathways to School Based Apprenticeships and being valuable role models for our Year 11 Work Education students.

School Based Apprenticeship

Congratulations to **Chaniese George**, 11W, who has recently gained a School Based Apprenticeship with Queensland Treasury. Chaniese will be completing a Certificate III traineeship in Business Administration.

Work Education

All Year 11 students will take part in mock interviews on 25 June. Fifteen employers from a range of areas will interview students for realistic employment opportunities. This activity lays the foundations for the job seeking process that all students are likely to encounter in their future careers. If there are any other volunteers who would like to contribute to this programme, please contact Ms Klee.

Chris Klee, HOD Senior Schooling



PARENTS PLEASE ENSURE YOU PHONE THE SCHOOL WHEN YOUR CHILD IS AWAY. OUR STUDENT ABSENCE LINE IS AVAILABLE 24/7. THE NUMBER TO CALL IS 3347 0160.

TALENT QUEST 2009

Well the talent quest has come and gone for another year but what a talent quest it was. We had twenty acts, all of whom deserved to shine their light on the night. Every act in the line-up performed in a mature and professional manner and provided a serious challenge for our three judges on the night. With a slick and professional sound and lighting crew the performers showcased their talents in seamless stream of entertainment. Thank you to the small band of volunteers who helped make a successful night. A big congratulations to our winners:

Vocal:	Phoebe Edwards
Instrumental:	Jeron Alfaro
Hip - Hop:	Matu Bordolo
Dance:	Jillian Turner
Comedy:	Chavi Brennan and Maggie Parsons-Clark
Band:	Joy Kelly and Eloise Bailey

Hope to see you there next year.

Kerry Mitchell, Talent Quest Co-ordinator

STONE THE CROWS (NOT LITERALLY)

The Wednesday afternoon environmental group are making great inroads into greening our school, but we would love some help. If you do not need the free plants offered by Brisbane City Council with payment of your rates, please consider donating them to HP. Any native plants would be appreciated; particularly bird attracting ones as we are trying to attract native birds to out compete the crows. Incidentally, the crow numbers drop significantly when the students aren't here as the litter generated by students contains enough food for the crows to congregate and create noise pollution.

Native grasses and grevilleas are great for school gardens as they do not grow too big and attract a variety of birds and insects which increases biodiversity.

Cathy Menzler, A/HOD Science

VOLLEYBALL NEWS

Volleyball Uniforms

The new uniforms are in and students were called to the H Block Staffroom to collect them at Lunchtime on Thursday 28 May. Any students who have not yet collected them at the time of receiving this newsletter need to come and collect them ASAP on Monday. Knee pads are not in yet. We will notify students as soon as they arrive. Unfortunately, the company we ordered uniforms from, LWR, has gone into receivership and has placed minimum order requirements on us. This has only affected those who ordered the Adidas Tracksuit Jackets, which we can no longer supply. Parents have been reimbursed for these Jackets through their school accounts.

Volleyball Training

As many of you will know we are fully underway with our training schedule across all age groups. **All students are expected to attend training sessions when they are scheduled and must inform their coaches by Morning Tea Break of the training day if they cannot attend.** In order to ensure the teams have as much game experience as we can give them we will, at times, organise special friendly games against a range of opponents. Please continue to support us to provide this valuable practice by helping your child make themselves available to play.

Year 8 Boys and Girls Volleyball

Many thanks to our coaches of the Year 8s. The girls coach is Tenielle Payne, with assistant coach Tallisha Harden. These two capable coaches have been working with the girls for several weeks now and we are seeing some great steps forward in their skill development. We finally have a boys coach! Many thanks to Cameron Ikin who has kindly volunteered to coach the Year 8 Boys Squad. Thus, at this stage, the boys training will now be from 3:00 to 4:00 pm every Friday. All training times will be reviewed and possibly expanded as we get closer to the time of the first competition for the Year 8s, The Qld Volleyball Junior Schools Cup held in Brisbane in October. If you have any questions about the boys training please call Mr Ikin in the Business Education/Computing Staffroom on 3347 0113.

Met East Reps

Recently four of our students travelled to Cairns to compete in the State Championships as representatives of the Metropolitan East Boys and Girls Volleyball Teams. Congratulations to both Met East Teams who won the Championships. This result is testament to how strong volleyball is in Met East and bodes well for the future of volleyball across the region. Well done to our four students: **Bec Bromwich, Gemma Reseigh, Jesse Spence and Matthew Willmot.**

Toowoomba Trip Reminder

Preparations for the Toowoomba Trip are progressing well. Parents please remember that **Monday 15 June is the date for final payment for the Toowoomba Trip.** The cost is **\$190** (plus **\$35** for QVA Registration, if students are not already registered). Once again, we wish to assure parents that any money paid towards the Toowoomba Trip can easily be put towards later competitions, if your child does not go to Toowoomba and all outstanding fees paid for trips that are not attended are fully refundable.

Team Spotlight

This team is the **U15 Boys Division 2 Silver Medal Winners** at the Australian Volleyball Schools Cup in Melbourne. After a poor start to their Australian Schools Cup preparation, with a number of heavy losses in the Qld Junior Schools Cup, the boys had a dream run to the finals in Melbourne without dropping a game. Unfortunately the pressure proved too much for them in the important final match, with the boys going down to Brighton. From left to right the players are: **Sam Harris, Hayden Wilson, James Cuskelly, Bobby Faragher,**

Conor Monaghan, Tony Nguyen, Robbie Gibson and Geordie Payne (Absent: Matthew Willmot).

Supercoachs Peter Reddy and Liz Deegan did a great job preparing the boys for the competition, which meant they started with confidence and skill. Congratulations once again boys and well done!!!

Craig Dawson, Volleyball Co-ordinator

Reminder

It will soon be Tax time – if you haven't already done so please consider supporting the Building Fund and/or Public Library Fund.

Cheques can be made payable to:-

- **Holland Park High P & C Association Building Fund and/or**
- **Holland Park High School Public Library Fund.**

EFTPOS facilities are also available.

Come along for a great family fun day with something for everyone! Rides, entertainment, cakes, jams pickles and baked goodies, craft, raffles and \$1000's worth of prizes, second hand clothing not to mention the now legendary second book stall!! Beat the budget blues for a great family day whilst supporting your local community! 55 Effingham Street, Tarragindi, 3848-0828

PLEASE SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES WHO ARE PROUDLY SUPPORTING HOLLAND PARK HIGH VOLLEYBALL PROGRAM



Telephone: 3397 0566 (Greenslopes)



Telephone: 3349 1554



TUCKSHOP NEWS

We will be celebrating **Bastille Day** once again in the Canteen on **Thursday 16 July** for the benefit of the students attending the French Club. There will be a French Menu accompanied by French Café music, with the canteen and staff decorated and dressed for the occasion. Anyone wishing to help out, is most welcome.

The **Athletics Carnival is on Friday 17 July**, so we will be asking for volunteers to help prepared the food and man the Canteen on the oval for the day. If you can help it will be greatly appreciated.

A big thank you to those people who have come forward and volunteered their valuable time to help out in the tuckshop, it is very much appreciated and I can't tell you what a difference it makes.

If you would like to help out any morning from 9am to 10.30am or on Fridays from 11.30 to 1pm, please feel free to ring me at the tuckshop on 3347 0108 or just drop in on the days you would like to help out.

Thank you,

Donna Phillips, Tuckshop Convenor

TUCKSHOP ROSTER

Tues 16/6	Christina Strong
Tues 23/6	Jodie Lingard
Fri 26/6	Judi Summers

COMMUNITY NOTICE

Australian Army Cadets – Recruiting Day – next enrolment/information day Saturday 27 June 2009 from 9.00 to 1.00pm. Location Joint Logistics Unit, Apollo Road, Bulimba. For further information please contact Capt Sue Price 0422 416 892 or Capt Richard Leahy 0417 758 492.

St Elizabeth School Fete 26th July 2008!

BLOCK EXAM TIMETABLE

Year 11

Thursday 18th → Wednesday 24th June 2009

Period	Thursday 18 th June	Friday 19 th June	Monday 22 nd June	Tuesday 23 rd June	Wednesday 24 th June	Thursday 25 th June	Friday 26 th June
8.45 To 10.15	BCT Test 1 (70 mins) in G12 GERMAN Writing Task in B12 (70 mins) IPT (90 mins) MATHS C (90 mins)	CIT (70 mins) BIOLOGY (90 mins)	MATHS C Part B (90 mins) MAN (30 mins) HOSP (70 mins)	ENGLISH COM Reflective Writing Exam (70 mins)	NORMAL TIMETABLED CLASSES ALL ASSIGNMENTS DUE TODAY CATCH UP ANY MISSED ASSESSMENT	WORK ED Employer Interviews in J11 & J12 WORK ED Completion of modules J13, J14, J15	WORK ED Completion of modules for Students who missed interviews or Students who have not had completed modules signed off
11.00 To 1.00	MATHS A MATHS B Part A (90 mins)	ENGLISH Feature Article Exam (90 mins)	BCT Test 2 (70 mins) PED (70 mins)	MATHS A MATHS B Part B (90 mins) PVM (70 mins)		SIGNING OFF OF COMPLETED MODULES	CATCH UP ANY MISSED TESTS
1.30 To 3.00	AHI111B (90 mins)		GRAPHICS (60 mins) In G12	ITS (60 mins)	SPORT	WORK EXPERIENCE PREPARATION in J Block	END OF SEMESTER ONE

BLOCK EXAM TIMETABLE

Year 12

Thursday 18th → Wednesday 24th June 2009

Period	Thursday 18 th June	Friday 19 th June	Monday 22 nd June	Tuesday 23 rd June	Wednesday 24 th June	Thursday 25 th June	Friday 26 th June
8.45 To 10.15	GERMAN - Writing Task in B12 (70 mins) IPT (90 Mins) MATHS C Part A (90 mins)	MULTISTR SC (70 mins)	MATHS C Part B (90 mins) MAN (30 mins) HOSP (70 mins)	MATHS A MATHS B Part B (90 mins)	NORMAL TIMETABLED CLASSES CATCH-UP ANY MISSED ASSESSMENT	QCS TEST (Compulsory for all students) 9am WRITING TASK (2hrs)	QCS TEST (Compulsory for all students) 9am SHORT RESPONSE ITEM (2hrs)
11.00 to 1.00	ENGLISH Unseen Essay Exam (90 mins +10 mins perusal) ENGLISH COM (60 mins)	MATHS A MATHS B Part A (90 mins) PVM (70 mins)	PED (70 mins)	CIT in Hall (70 mins) JAPANESE Listening Test in B13 (70 mins)		12.30 MULTIPLE CHOICE I (1.5hrs)	12.30 MULTIPLE CHOICE II (1.5hrs)
1.30 To 3.00	AHI123B (90 mins)		LEGAL STUDIES (90 mins) GRAPHICS in G12 (60 mins)	BIOLOGY (90 mins)	SPORT		

Students should check Block Exam Timetables carefully

- This information has been taken from Student Assessment Planners and adjustments made where required
- All assessment will take place in the HALL unless stated otherwise.
- If your assessment schedule presents issues (ie clashes with another subject, clashes with TAFE assessment, etc) you must see Mrs Morton to re-schedule your assessment before the end of semester
- **Medical Certificates are required for any absences from scheduled tests**

H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza)

clever • skilled • creative

Questions and answers for parents and carers

Have there been any confirmed cases of H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) in Queensland?

There have now been confirmed cases of H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) in Queensland.

What is the H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza)?

The H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) virus is a new flu virus that is infecting people and spreading from person to person. Cases of H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) have been confirmed in countries throughout the world by the World Health Organization and there have now been confirmed cases of H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) in Australia.

H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) is spread from person to person in the same way seasonal influenza and other common respiratory infections spread. H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) viruses are not spread by food. You cannot get H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) from eating properly handled and prepared pork or pork products. ([CDC](#) and [WHO](#) fact sheets).

How is H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) transmitted?

H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) is contagious and has spread from human to human. However, at this time, it is not known how easily the virus spreads between people.

This flu is spread from person to person in the same way seasonal influenza and other common respiratory infections spread.

Being in close contact (e.g. within a metre) with an infected person while they are talking, coughing or sneezing puts you at risk of becoming infected. Virus-containing droplets can land on the surfaces of the mouth, nose and throat of people close by. The virus may also be spread through contact with infectious respiratory secretions on the hands of an infected person or other objects and surfaces.

How long is the infectious period for H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza)?

People with H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) should be considered potentially contagious as long as they have a fever and for up to seven (7) days following the onset of illness, whichever is longer.

Children, especially younger children, may be contagious for longer periods.

What are the symptoms of H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza)?

The symptoms of swine flu are similar to those of seasonal influenza, including:

- fever and any one of the following
- cough, sore throat, runny nose or nasal congestion.

In addition, some people have also reported diarrhoea and vomiting associated with H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza). Severe illness (pneumonia and respiratory failure) and deaths have been reported with H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) infection in people. Like seasonal flu, H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) may cause worsening of underlying chronic medical conditions.

Any people exhibiting these symptoms should go home and contact 13HEALTH (13 43 25 84) or attend their medical practice or hospital Emergency Department. If attending a medical practice or hospital Emergency Department, people should telephone beforehand so they can arrange to be seen away from other people.

Does the current Influenza vaccination (flu shot) provide any protection against H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza)?

The seasonal influenza vaccine is unlikely to offer protection against H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza). However, it is recommended that people over six (6) months old continue to be vaccinated against seasonal influenza.

What is the best way to protect myself from H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza)?

For both seasonal and H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza), the best way to protect yourself and others is to:

- stay home when you are sick
- wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand gel
- wash your hands prior to touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- when coughing or sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with disposable tissues which should be disposed of immediately
- do not share items such as cigarettes, glasses or cups, lipstick, toys or anything which could be contaminated with respiratory secretions
- maintain at least a one metre distance from people who have flu-like symptoms such as coughing or sneezing
- consult your doctor if you have a cough and fever. Follow their instructions, including taking medicine as prescribed.
- if attending a medical practice or hospital Emergency Department, telephone beforehand so that they can arrange for you to be seen away from other people.

For further information contact your local doctor, population health unit, ring 13HEALTH (13 43 25 84) or visit the Queensland Health Website at <http://www.health.qld.gov.au/swineflu>.

You can also download the Department's [Infection Control Guidelines](#) and visit the Department's Influenza website at <http://education.qld.gov.au/health/healthpromotion/influenza.html>

Who should I talk to if I think have flu-like symptoms?

We encourage you to talk to your general practitioner or call 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84) if you have any concerns. If attending a medical practice or hospital Emergency Department, telephone beforehand so they can arrange for you to be seen away from other people. The Department of Health and Ageing has set up a Swine Influenza hotline – 180 2007.

What treatment is available for H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza)?

Antiviral medications such as oseltamivir (Tamiflu) and zanamivir (Relenza) can be used in the treatment of H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza). Antiviral drugs are prescription medicines which can help prevent or reduce symptoms. Antiviral drugs work best if started soon after becoming sick – within two (2) days of symptoms developing.

Antibiotics may be required for secondary bacterial infections such as pneumonia.

What tests are conducted to determine if someone has H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza)?

Testing involves a nose and throat swab which is sent away to Queensland Health's Brisbane laboratory. Any initial test results that are positive are sent to the World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre for Influenza in Victoria for confirmation.

What should I do if I have just returned from overseas or Victoria?

Anyone who has been in countries of concern or Victoria recently, and has become ill within seven (7) days of returning, should consult their general practitioner or hospital emergency department, especially if they have flu-like symptoms.

The list of countries of concern, which is updated regularly, is available from the Australian Government's [Department of Health and Ageing website](#).

Should a child go to school after returning from Victoria or an overseas country of concern?

Students will be asked not to attend school for seven (7) days, inclusive of weekends and public holidays, following travel to an area of concern, including Victoria. To the best of their ability, students should also avoid other major gatherings e.g. sporting events, shopping malls.

The list of areas of concern, which is updated regularly, is available from the Australian Government's [Department of Health and Ageing website](#).

Should a child go to school after having contact with a family member who has recently returned from Victoria or a country of concern?

Yes. If the family member develops flu-like symptoms they should contact 13HEALTH (13 43 25 84) for further information.

The list of countries of concern, which is updated regularly, is available from the Australian Government's [Department of Health and Ageing website](#).

What should a parent do if their child has had contact with a child who is currently on a seven-day time out period out from school due to travel to areas of concern?

Continue normal activities and contact 13HEALTH (13 43 25 84) if concerned.

What will the seven-day day time out period involve?

Students will be asked not to attend school for seven (7) days following international travel to an area of concern. To the best of their ability, students should also avoid other major gatherings e.g. sporting events, shopping malls.

Why is it a seven-day timeout period? A seven-day timeout period is a substantial disruption for students and their carers. However, it is less of a burden for families and the community than closure of an entire school which could result if a student attended school while infectious.

Can the period be shorter than seven (7) days? No. Experts from the Communicable Diseases Network Australia recommend that seven (7) days is the period of time to ensure that the student has not acquired infection.

Will a school always be temporarily closed upon notification that there is a confirmed case of H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) at the site?

No. The decision to temporarily close a school is made by Queensland Health on a case by case basis after careful consideration of a range of information.

It is possible that a school might be temporarily closed to all students but staff may be able to continue to access this site.

Queensland Health may also determine that only those identified staff and students who have come into close contact with the confirmed case(s) might be placed into home isolation. It might be deemed appropriate by Queensland Health for all other students and staff members to continue coming to school.

I'm a parent/carer of a student who has returned from travelling to Victoria or a country of concern, who do I call?

If you are unsure whether your child needs to stay home from school, you should check the list of countries of concern on the Australian Government's [Department of Health and Ageing website](#).

This list will be reviewed regularly in light of the current situation.

We encourage you to talk to your general practitioner or call 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84) if you have any concerns. If attending a medical practice or hospital Emergency Department, telephone beforehand so they can arrange for you to be seen away from other people. The Department of Health and Ageing has set up a Swine Influenza Hotline – 180 2007.

If schools require further information they should contact Organisational Health Unit on telephone (07) 3237 0729.

What should I do if my child has H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza)?

If your child is confirmed as having H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) by Queensland Health, your entire household would be home isolated for seven (7) days. Antiviral medications such as oseltamivir (Tamiflu) and zanamivir (Relenza) can be used in the treatment of H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza).

What should I do if my child is suspected of having H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza)?

If your child is suspected of having H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza), the student will be home isolated until results are confirmed by Queensland Health.

What is the Government doing?

The Queensland Government is working with the Commonwealth and other state governments to manage the situation. Our public health response will continue to be reviewed in line with this. Queensland Health is also:

- monitoring for cases
- urgently testing suspect cases
- isolating all suspected cases in their homes and providing them with anti-virals
- placing nurses at the airports to meet all international flights, and has
- activated the Queensland Health Pandemic Influenza Plan
- activated the Population Health Sub-plan
- established the State Health Emergency Coordination Centre.

Do I need to wear a face mask?

Current advice received from Queensland Health is that there is no requirement for staff or students to wear a face mask. At this stage it is more important to implement preventative measures such as maintaining good hand hygiene and avoiding close contact with persons who are sneezing and coughing.

Any staff or students should stay home when they are sick.

How can hand-washing reduce the spread of the new strain of Influenza when people are coughing and sneezing around me?

Being in close contact (e.g. within a metre) with an infected person while they are talking, coughing or sneezing puts you at risk of becoming infected.

Virus-containing droplets can land on the surfaces of the mouth, nose and throat of people close by. The virus may also be spread through contact with infectious respiratory secretions on the hands of an infected person or other contaminated objects and surfaces. Hand-washing reduces the spread of the influenza virus by reducing cross contamination.

Washing your hands frequently with soap, water and drying thoroughly or the use of alcohol-based hand gels is an effective means of reducing the risk of catching the flu virus. Avoiding touching your face with your hands further decreases the risk.

Are there any groups of people who are more at risk of serious complications of H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza)?

More study is needed to determine if some populations (i.e. younger or older people; or people with other medical conditions) are at higher risk for severe illness. The World Health Organisation recommends that everyone take precautions to prevent the spread of infection. If you have any concerns please discuss with your general practitioner.

Is it safe to eat pork meat and products?

H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) in pigs has never been reported or detected in Australia. Pork and pig meat products are safe to eat. For more information related to animal health visit www.dpi.qld.gov.au

Will student tours and visits to Queensland State schools from Victoria and affected countries observe the seven-day timeout period?

Yes. Children and adolescents from affected countries (currently Japan, USA, Canada, Mexico and Panama) and Victoria are asked to observe the seven-day timeout period. It is possible that the list of affected areas will grow over time. If this occurs, the same conditions will apply.

Can students from Victoria and affected countries stay in homestay arrangements?

Currently, only the child or adolescent arriving or returning from Victoria or an affected country observes the timeout period. Siblings and other household members are not subject to the timeout period. The main impact for Study Tours coming to Queensland is that students entering Australia from Victoria and the affected countries are asked not to enter school grounds for seven days. This is based on advice from Queensland's Chief Health Officer.