



Notice: 20/2023-24

29.2.2024

To: Parents / Guardians,

Be Vigilant Against the Spread of Communicable Diseases in School

Recently several students in different classes are reported to have symptoms of Hand Foot Mouth Disease (HFMD). In view of this, you are urged to be vigilant against the disease. Please take note of the following information from Centre of Health Protection (Department of Health).

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. 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).

WHAT PARENTS SHOULD DO:

1. Keep your children at home for rest if they develop fever or rash.
2. Children with symptoms of HFMD should seek medical advice promptly. Inform the school at once after the diagnose is made and submit the medical certificate to the school as soon as possible.
3. Children with HFMD should be excluded from school until fever has subsided and all the vesicles have dried and crusted.
4. Children with EV71 infection are advised not to go to school for another two weeks after all symptoms subsided.
5. Supervise children on personal hygiene practices, especially on how to wash the hands properly with liquid soap before meals and after going to toilet, cover nose and mouth while sneezing or coughing; and proper disposal of nasal and mouth discharge.
6. Children should avoid high risk play facilities such as ball pools.
7. 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.

Should you have any enquiries, please contact Ms HUNG Yin-yee or Ms Rukhshinda at 2386 8049.

Thank you for your attention.

(Ms CHUI Sau-man)

Headmistress