



**Preventing the Spread of Human Swine Influenza
Temporary Suspension of Meetings, Programmes and Training Activities
for Grasshopper Scouts and Cub Scouts**

Since a local case of human swine influenza (or referred to as influenza A/H1N1) was confirmed, the Education Bureau has announced territory-wide suspension of classes for 14 days among kindergartens, kindergarten-cum-child-care centres, primary schools and special schools with effect from 12 June 2009. **In this regard, the Association has decided, with effect from 12 June 2009, to temporarily suspend meetings, programmes and training activities for Grasshopper Scouts and Cub Scouts until the Education Bureau commences resumption of classes.** This circular is applicable to all activities organized by Groups, Districts, Regions and Association Headquarters.

Meetings, programmes and training activities for Scouts, Venture Scouts, Rover Scouts and Leaders may continue at the discretion of Sectional Scouters or Scouters-in-Charge. Scout members, parents and Scouters should be notified of any cancellation of meetings or activities.

Members are advised to adopt the following precautionary measures to reduce the risk of being infected by swine influenza:

- Keep hands clean and wash hands properly. Alcohol-based hand rub is also effective when hands are not visibly soiled.
- Avoid touching mouth, nose or eyes.
- Wash hands with liquid soap promptly if they are dirtied by respiratory secretions, e.g. after sneezing or coughing.
- Cover nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing.
- Do not spit. Always wrap nasal and mouth discharges with tissue paper, and dispose of the tissue paper properly in a rubbish bin with a lid.
- Wear a mask when respiratory symptoms or fever develop. See a doctor right away.
- If you develop influenza-like symptoms as fever, do not attend Group / Unit meetings and activities.

In the course of meetings or activities, Scouters-in-charge should strengthen the precautionary measures as follows:

- Avoid visiting crowded or poorly ventilation places when organizing activities.
- Keep sufficient face masks for use by members who may need one.
- Enhance the hygiene facilities of the Group / Unit headquarters, keep the environment clean and maintain good ventilation.
- Measure body temperature and if a member is found to have symptoms of respiratory infection or fever, the leader should instruct the member to wear a face mask and contact their parents as soon as possible for prompt medical treatment.
- A full list of all attendants for the activity should be kept.

For more health advices on the prevention of influenza, please visit the website of the Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health (www.chp.gov.hk). If you have any enquiry in connection with this Circular, please contact Scout Executive (Administration) Miss Florine FUNG at 2957 6334.

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