

THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

Advice for Students Participating in Offshore Summer Programmes

Introduction

The World Health Organisation has raised the level of pandemic alert to Level 5 on 29 April 2009. The emergency response level of Hong Kong has been activated on 1 May 2009 in response to the confirmed import case of Human Swine Flu (Influenza A H1N1).

Travel Advice

Human-to-human transmission has occurred in the present human swine flu outbreak. Participants of offshore summer programmes are advised to observe the following guidelines:

- Wear a mask during travel;
- Avoid contact with sick people;
- Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth;
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water, or apply alcohol-based hand cleaners;
- If signs or symptoms of influenza appear, seek medical advice promptly and provide details of your recent travel.

Before the Trip

- Pay attention to your health;
- If signs or symptoms of influenza appear, seek medical advice promptly;
- Sick people are advised not to travel until they have recovered;
- Purchase additional insurance to ensure comprehensive coverage on health, hospitalization, medical evacuation, accidental death and repatriation;
- Visit related websites like the Centre of Health Protection and World Health Organisation to know the latest situation of the area you intend to visit;
- Attend all briefing sessions or pre-departure meetings organized by the Student Affairs Office and the HKIED.

During the Trip

- Strict adherence to personal and environmental hygiene;
- Avoid crowded area;
- Maintain regular contact with your family and the Student Affairs Office;
- If signs or symptoms of influenza appear, seek medical advice promptly;
- Follow local public health guidelines, including any movement restrictions and prevention recommendations;

After the Trip

If signs or symptoms of influenza appear within 7 days after the trip:

- Put on a mask;
- Seek medical consultation from public clinics and hospital immediately;
- Inform the Student Affairs Office or HKIED

Please be assured that the Student Affairs Office is always with you to make your overseas programmes safe and rewarding.