



What is a Flu Pandemic?

Influenza (flu) pandemics are remarkable events that can rapidly infect virtually all countries worldwide. They are viruses and spread by coughing and sneezing.

Three pandemics have occurred in the last century 1918, 1957 and 1968.

It is anticipated that the pandemic will spread quickly and cause serious disruption.



Why Plan Now?

Emergence and spread of the H5N1 avian influenza virus.

W.H.O concern that the virus might change to one that is able to be spread between humans.

So.....

Health Authorities, Councils, other front- line emergency responders work in partnership to build local preparedness.



Guidance Issued by the Berkshire Education 'Flu Group'

- Action Plan
- FAQ's
- Business Continuity Plan template
- An example Business Continuity Plan
- Risk Assessment template
- Hygiene Protocol
- Contracts Protocol
- Model letter to parents
- KS1 lesson plan
- KS2 lesson plan



Pandemic Flu Preparations School Action Plan

1. Nominate a member of staff or governor who can be the point of contact for the Local Authority
2. VA and Foundation Schools – consider implications of your wide catchment areas

3. Prepare a business continuity plan, which will include:
 - Consider your target groups
 - Where staff shortages consider education priorities and deploy remaining staff appropriately
 - School closure if staffing not sufficient
 - School closure if pandemic affects more than ??% of pupils
 - Consider core duties for non- teaching staff
 - Think about alternatives to school based education e.g. electronic links between students at home and teachers at school or home.
 - Ensure contact details for pupils/staff are updated regularly

4. Do a risk assessment
5. Consider the needs of vulnerable and special needs pupils in your planning
6. Insurance – will this cover supply teachers?
7. Establish links with contractors to ensure resilience for possible reduction in their staffing (include in your business continuity plan)

8. Establish lists of community groups who use school premises and consider suspension of arrangements to limit spread
9. List all possible visitors to the school e.g. BYMT, Museum, Photographers, Deliveries or Speakers
10. Establish a policy for preventing spread of the influenza within the school.
11. Identify the essential dates in your school calendar of events (part of business continuity)

12. Seek advice before embarking on outdoor activities or school trips:
 - Is it essential the trip needs to take place?
 - Check on health of staff and students before embarking on trip
 - Have an emergency plan in place to get the member of staff/student home if they become unwell and a continuity plan to enable the trip to continue if appropriate

13. Set up a mechanism for reporting symptoms.



Useful Email Addresses

www.teachernet.gov.uk/emergencies/planning/flupandemic

www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk