



E.coli Outbreak at Hayes Primary: Update

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Audience:	Head Teachers of all Bromley Maintained Schools Chairs of Governors of all Bromley Maintained Schools Head Teachers/Principals of all Independent Schools Head Teacher, Kingswood Centre Head of Specialist School Services Heads of Unit: Darrick Wood Primary/Secondary HIUs
Action required:	Note the action being taken in respect of Hayes Primary School and the guidance on information sources regarding E.coli.
Timing:	Urgent
Also sent to:	Secretaries of Staff Associations Councillor Ernest Noad, Executive Member for the Children and Young People Portfolio CYP SMT CYP Management Forum CYP Secretariat James Brady, Council's Emergency Planning Officer Ken Stacey, Health and Safety Manager Health Protection Agency and Dr Rachel Heathcock Bromley Environmental Health Team – Richard Foulger Angela Bhan, Bromley PCT John Skillicorn-Aston, Chief Executive's Emma Dedier, Communications Manager Amanda Day, Communications Analyst
Type:	Information to the audience
Description:	This e-mail updates Head Teacher and Chair of Governors about the outbreak of E.coli 0157 at Hayes Primary School and the preventative measures and advice lines that have been set in place.
Relates to:	N/A
Date Issued:	6 July 2006
Contact:	Gillian Pearson, Assistant Director, Children and Young People Services Tel: 020 8313 4146 Email: gillian.pearson@bromley.gov.uk

For reader's use:



E.coli Outbreak at Hayes Primary: Update

I am writing to update you on the position at Hayes Primary School following the outbreak of E.coli 0157 last week.

A multi-agency review meeting took place yesterday afternoon. I can now advise you that the Health Protection Agency (HPA) have identified 37 confirmed cases of E.coli 0157 and a further 2 probable cases.

Several schools have contacted the Local Authority regarding siblings of pupils at Hayes Primary School and those who have been in general contact with staff and pupils. The Health Protection Agency (HPA) advise that these pupils can attend school as normal unless an individual has been advised otherwise by the HPA.

To minimise the risk of any infection it is worth re-iterating the advice given on the fact sheet circulated with Circular 097/06 that all pupils should wash their hands thoroughly after going to the toilet and before preparing meals or eating.

Hayes Primary School remains closed. Contract cleaners have been commissioned to undertake a 'specialist clean' of the school buildings, fixtures, fittings and equipment. It will be necessary to dispose of any equipment and resources that cannot be cleaned effectively. The contractors will be working extended days and throughout the weekends. However, it is estimated that to complete the clean to the required standards of the HPA and Environmental Health will take approximately ten days. Therefore, it will not be possible to re-open the school until at least **Monday 17 July 2006**.

There are two factors to be considered before a decision can be made to open the school. Firstly, the school needs to be verified as a 'clean' environment. Secondly, a sufficient percentage of staff need to be confirmed as clear of any E.coli infection to enable pupils who have also been 'cleared' to return.

Parents of children at Hayes Primary School will receive a letter updating them. The school and LBB web-sites will also be updated. I attach a further copy of the HPA fact sheet on E.coli 0157.

If you want more information about *E.coli* then please go to the NHS Direct website at **nhsdirect.nhs.co.uk** or telephone NHS Direct on **0845 4647**.

If you have any specific concerns at your school or need further advice on these health related issues please contact HPA direct. The contact telephone no. is **020 7716 7030**.

If you have any enquiries about the educational issues and possible impact on school organisation or potential closure, please contact Gillian Pearson, Assistant Director, Children and Young People Services on **020 8313 4146** (email: gillian.pearson@bromley.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Gillian Pearson'.

Gillian Pearson
Assistant Director
Children and Young People Services