

Our ref: DB/mw

Dear Parent/Carer

COMMISSIONING OF NUCLEAR SUBMARINE AT BAE SYSTEMS

The following communication has been jointly constructed by BAE Systems and the Local Authority for relevant schools and play groups to distribute to their children's/students' parents/carers regarding an upcoming test in connection with the commissioning of the latest nuclear submarine at BAE in Barrow.

"Dear parents

You may already be aware that in the extremely unlikely event of a nuclear emergency during the testing and commissioning of a nuclear submarine at the BAE SYSTEMS Submarine Solutions site at Barrow, this school has been issued with potassium iodate tablets for distribution to the pupils should a nuclear emergency occur during the school day. Potassium iodate tablets work by "filling up" the thyroid gland in the neck with natural iodine to prevent radioactive iodine being absorbed into the thyroid gland.

In the event of such an emergency schools will be alerted and parents/guardians will be advised not to collect their children from school until informed that it is safe to do so. The children will be looked after by their teachers either at their school/playgroup or at a Reception Centre.

If the need arises the County Council as part of the Strategic Coordination group (which includes all the Emergency Services) in consultation with the Health Protection Agency and the Director of Public Health will alert schools/ playgroups following the declaration of a nuclear emergency and will advise when to administer the tablet(s) to your child.


If it is necessary to do so, your child will then be issued with the tablet(s) by teaching staff in accordance with instructions from the Director of Public Health.

In order that the school/playgroup can be fully prepared for such an event and in order to ensure that all parents are aware of the procedures, parental/guardian consent to issue the tablet/s to your child is required in advance.

Potassium Iodate tablets have been found to be very safe and there are only very few medical conditions that mean that they cannot be used safely in those individuals. If your child suffers from allergy to iodine, Dermatitis Herpetiformis, hypocomplementaemic vasculitis or thyrotoxicosis then please indicate this on the form. If your child suffers from a serious medical condition other than those named above please consult your General Practitioner. If your General Practitioner recommends against their use then please indicate this on the form."

Finally, if you have any queries about this information, or the consent form, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Hughes (Director of Inclusion) at the Academy. Please inform your child to return the attached consent form to Reception.

Yours sincerely



Mr D Blackledge
Principal & Chief Executive

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Student: Learning Group:

In the event of a nuclear emergency, and whilst in the care of the Academy, I give my consent to my son/daughter being administered the age appropriate dose of potassium iodate, by Academy staff, in line with the directions of the Director of Public Health.

Name: (Parent/Carer)

Signed: (Parent/Carer)