## Central Essentials: Advice to Pupils Regarding Floodwater

Following the recent period of bad weather a number of areas within Central Bedfordshire are experiencing areas of flooding and surface water.

Whilst the sight of floodwater may prove exciting and an enticing arena for play for some children it is important that children are made aware of the dangers. Floodwater is often contaminated with water from flooded drains and sewers and contact should therefore be avoided where possible because of the inherent risk of infection.

The Environment Agency have released the following advice to be promoted through schools:

Avoid walking or cycling through flood water.

Be aware that flooding can cause manhole covers to come off.

Keep out of floodwater and watch out for submerged debris.

Don't walk on riverbanks.

Take care or avoid crossing bridges when water levels are high.

Take care crossing culverts or drains as they are dangerous when flooded.

Look out for other hazards such as fallen power lines and trees.

Wash your hands thoroughly if you touch floodwater as it may be contaminated.

If you require further information or advice please e-mail <a href="mailto:pete.hardy@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk">pete.hardy@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</a>