

13th December, 2017

Dear Parents / Carers,

INFORMATION REGARDING MEASLES AND MMR VACCINE

Firstly, can I reassure you that no pupil attending our school has measles. However, as you may already be aware, there is a measles outbreak in Liverpool affecting unvaccinated children and I have been asked to share the following information with you.

Measles is highly infectious and can cause serious illness and can sometimes be fatal. Vaccination, with two doses of MMR, is the only way to protect children and young people. The first injection is given to toddlers at the age of 13 months and the second injection at around 3 years and 4 months before children start school.

The vaccination can be given to older children, teenagers and young adults if they missed their injections when they were younger. **Please contact your GP practice if your child has not been vaccinated or you are uncertain if they received both doses.**

The first signs of measles are:

- Fever
- Cough, runny nose and red sore eyes
- After a few days, a spotty rash appears. It starts on the face and neck and spreads to the rest of the body.

If you think your child has measles, ring your GP practice for advice. Don't turn up to the surgery or walk in centre without calling ahead. The doctor will make special arrangements to see your child so they don't infect others.

Keep people with symptoms of measles away from others to avoid spreading measles, and stay away from school, nursery or work for five days after the onset of rash.

Travel advice: There are large outbreaks of measles currently in Romania, Italy or Germany. Make sure you are up to date with your MMR vaccine if you are planning to travel to these countries.

If you would like more information, see <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/>

Yours sincerely



Mrs. F. Tiernan
Headteacher