



UK Health
Security
Agency

West Midlands Health Protection Team

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Ref: 200993337

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Dear Parent/ Guardian,

Re: Reminder to catch up on MMR vaccine following measles cases in school

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) West Midlands Health Protection Team has been notified of **several people with suspected measles** in the school community. Both children and members of staff are affected, with a small number of cases laboratory confirmed and further suspected cases currently being tested.

Cases of measles are relatively unusual thanks to the success of the MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccination programme at protecting children and other vulnerable people. However, measles spreads quickly where people have not been vaccinated.

If your child gets measles, they will have to stay off school, and they could miss out on the festivity if they get ill over the Christmas holidays. Additionally, measles can sometimes cause very serious illness, needing admission to hospital. The disease can even cause life-changing disabilities, and in rare cases, it can be fatal.

The MMR vaccine is safe and effective, and a version of the vaccine (Priorix) is available for those who don't touch pork products. So please ensure that your child has **both doses** of their MMR to protect them against measles. Contact your GP surgery to book an appointment.

Yours faithfully

Dr Roger Gajraj

Consultant in Communicable Disease Control

West Midlands Health Protection Team
UK Health Security Agency