

NHS England North (Lancashire and South Cumbria)
Preston Business Centre
Watling Street Road
Preston
PR2 8DY

11th August 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

It will have been a busy and an exciting few weeks getting your child ready to start school this September. We are writing to remind you that making sure your child is up to date with their immunisations is also a really important part of getting them ready for School.

Your child should have had a pre-school booster and their second MMR vaccination at the GP practice when they were around 3 and a half years old. These vaccinations are important for ensuring full protection against some serious and potentially fatal diseases.

Contact your GP practice if you are unsure whether your child has received all their immunisations and for more information visit the GOV.UK website to access the national information leaflet on pre-school immunisations https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/536327/PHE_Pr_eschool_A5.pdf or speak to your Doctor or Health Visitor.

Some reasons to have your child vaccinated include:

- Parents want to do everything possible to make sure their children are healthy and protected from preventable diseases. Vaccination is the best way to do that.
- Vaccination protects children from serious illness and complications of vaccine-preventable diseases.
- Vaccine-preventable diseases, such as measles, mumps, and whooping cough, are potentially serious.
- Outbreaks of preventable diseases can occur when many parents decide not to vaccinate their children.
- Vaccination is safe and effective. All vaccines undergo long and careful review by scientists and doctors, to make sure they are safe.
- Vaccination protects others you care about, including family members, friends, and grandparents.
- If children aren't vaccinated, they can spread disease to other children who are too young to be vaccinated or to people with weakened immune systems, such as transplant recipients and people with cancer. This could result in long-term complications for these vulnerable people.
- We all have a public health commitment to our communities to protect each other and each other's children by vaccinating our own family members.

We wish your child a happy and healthy start at school.

Yours sincerely



Gill Marsh
Senior Screening and Immunisation Manager (Nurse Consultant)
NHS England North (Lancashire and South Cumbria)