

9th February 2024

Dear Parent Carers,

Weekly Update: 09/02/24

I hope this update finds you well. School residential season has kicked off, with classes KS3EH, KS3KT and KS4ML all going away in Derbyshire this week. Residential are a fantastic opportunity for the students to spend some time away from school with their class and pastoral team. Those who have been away this week have been involved in lots of fun outdoor activities, and we look forward to sharing their stories with you soon.

Health Update

Derby City Council's public health team have asked schools to share the flyer included with the update about Measles. This is following the recent news that the UK Health Security Agency has warned that measles could spread unless action is taken to increase the uptake of Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccinations. I hope you find this information useful.

Half Term

School closes to students for a well-deserved half term break on Thursday 15th February. Staff will be in school on Friday 16th for a training day. School re-opens to students on Monday 26th February.

Wishing you a great weekend,



Sabrina Hobbs
Executive Headteacher

Sabrina Hobbs **Executive Headteacher**

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Dear Parent or Carer,

We are writing to encourage you to protect yourself and your children from measles by getting the Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine.

You may have seen news stories about the increase in measles cases across the UK recently. We often think of measles as an illness that no longer affects us in the UK. But because of several years of low vaccine uptake, measles is now on the rise again.

Measles is an infection that spreads very easily and can cause serious illness. Complications of measles can include infection of the brain membrane, blindness, and seizures (fits). Measles can make both adults and children very unwell. People in certain at-risk groups including babies and young children, pregnant women, and people with a weakened immune system, are at increased risk of complications from measles.

Early symptoms of measles include a cold-like symptoms such as coughing, sneezing and feeling hot. Then a rash develops; the rash starts on the face and behind the ears before spreading to the rest of the body. The rash looks brown or red and can feel bumpy.

It is very important that people with suspected measles do not go to the GP or A&E as they are likely to infect others. If you are worried that you or your child has measles, stay at home, and ask for an urgent GP appointment. Do not attend the GP surgery until you have called ahead.

The only protection against measles is the MMR vaccine. The MMR vaccine is a free, safe, and effective vaccine which protects you from catching and spreading measles. There are two different types of MMR vaccine available in the UK. Some vaccines are made using pork gelatine in very small amounts. The Priorix MMR vaccine does not contain pork gelatine, this can be requested from the GP. If you would like information, please visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/>

Children and adults can catch up on any missed vaccines. If you are not sure if you and your children have had the MMR vaccine, please check your online GP records, NHS app or red book. If you or your children have not had the MMR vaccine, please contact your GP to arrange this.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Robyn Dewis, Director of Public Health for Derby City



Derby City Council



Term Dates for Academic Year 2023/2024

Autumn Term

INSET Day – Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th September

School Starts for the new Academic Year – Wednesday 6th September

School Breaks up for Half Term – Friday 27th October

School Starts Back – Monday 6th November

School Breaks up for Christmas – Friday 22nd December

Spring Term

School Starts Back – Monday 8th January 2024

School Breaks up for Half Term – Thursday 15th February

INSET Day – Friday 16th February

School Starts Back – Monday 26th February

School Breaks up for Easter – Thursday 28th March

Summer Term

INSET Day – Monday 15th April

School Starts Back – Tuesday 16th April

Bank Holiday – Monday 6th May

School Breaks up for Half Term - Friday 24th May

School Starts Back – Monday 3rd June

INSET Day – Monday 1st July

School Breaks up for Summer – Tuesday 23rd July

St Martins follows Derby City Council's term dates. Dates for next year can be found on their website – please follow the link for these - <https://derby.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/term-holiday-dates/#>

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