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Dear Colleague,

Information regarding recent measles outbreaks

You may have seen on the news recently that there has been several outbreaks of measles, (primarily in London, however outbreaks are beginning to occur more locally as well.) The health protection team at North East Lincolnshire Council are writing to all schools to ensure that they are equipped with the latest advice and guidance regarding measles and to encourage vaccination to protect against the disease. Please find below the national communication message for sharing with staff, parents and students.

Measles cases are increasing nationally, and there have been a small number of cases locally.

Measles spreads very easily and can cause serious illness, particularly in people who are not fully vaccinated.

*We're urging parents, carers **and young people** to check vaccination records and make sure they are fully protected with **two doses of the MMR vaccine**.*

*This is especially important for **teenagers and young adults who are preparing to go to university or college**, where measles can spread quickly in shared accommodation and social settings.*

☑ *Check your or your child's vaccination record*
☑ *Make sure two doses of MMR or MMRV have been given*
☑ *If not fully vaccinated, **contact your GP practice as soon as possible***

*Children and young people who are not fully vaccinated may need to stay away from school, college or university for up to **21 days** if they are exposed to measles.*

The MMR vaccine is safe, highly effective and the best way to protect yourself and others.

Alternative non-gelatine options are available — just ask your GP practice.

I would be very grateful if you could share this message with your staff, students and parents and be vigilant for the signs and symptoms of measles in your school.

Please contact me directly if you have any further questions or queries,

Kind regards,

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