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MEASLES OUTBREAK IN LIVERPOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have recently been informed of a measles outbreak in the L7 and L8 areas of Liverpool. In addition, we heard this morning that a child related to one of our Nursery children has measles. Please read the message below from the Local Authority about how to protect your family and what to do if you think your child may be at risk of getting measles.

Message for parents and guardians

There is a measles outbreak in Liverpool affecting young unimmunised children. Measles is highly infectious. It can cause serious illness and can sometimes be fatal. Vaccination with 2 doses of MMR is the only way to protect children and young people.

The first MMR vaccine is given to toddlers at the age of 13 months and the second injection at around 3 years and 4 months before your child goes to school. MMR can be given to older children, teenagers and young adults if they missed their injections when they were younger. Contact your GP practice if your child needs an MMR vaccine. The vaccine is free. If you are not sure if your child needs an MMR vaccine, you can contact the GP to ask.

Measles is not just a little kids' problem. Teenagers, young adults and anyone who has missed their MMR vaccination can get measles. The first signs of measles are fever, cough, runny nose and red sore eyes. After a few days, a spotty rash will appear. It starts on the face and neck before spreading 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, walk in centre or to Alder Hey accident and emergency without calling ahead. The doctor will make special arrangements to see your child so that if your child has measles – they won't pass it on to others. Keep people with symptoms of measles away from others to avoid spreading measles, and stay away from school, nursery or work for 5 days after the onset of rash.

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

Please speak to me or the office staff if you need any more information,

Yours sincerely

Tamara Bennett
Head Teacher



