



North Tyneside Council

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To Parents/Guardians of children in all Schools and Nurseries in North Tyneside

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Re: Measles cases in the North East

You may have seen the recent press coverage about the ongoing measles outbreak across the country, including the North East region.

Measles is highly infectious and unvaccinated children and adults who haven't had it before are at risk.

It is **very important** at times like this to check your child's immunisation history and ensure it is up to date for their age.

To have the best protection against measles, two doses of the MMR vaccine are required. As part of the childhood immunisation programme the first dose of the vaccine is given at 12 -13 months and a second dose around 3 years 4 months.

Please check that you have written proof that your child is up to date with their MMR vaccines (for example in their child health record book) **and if they are not, please arrange for them to have the vaccine at your GP surgery as soon as possible. It is never too late to have this done.**

Further information about measles and its symptoms can be found on the NHS Choices website (www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles).

Any child who has measles should stay off school until **four full days** after the start of the rash.

Yours sincerely

Marietta Evans
Director of Public Health
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