



Thursday 11th April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Below is information I have been asked to share with you.

- Measles is currently spreading in the UK with large outbreaks in areas such as the West Midlands and other parts of England. A significant number (1 in 5) of unvaccinated children who have contract measles have required hospital treatment.
- Measles can spread very quickly among children and adults who are not vaccinated and can cause some people to become seriously unwell and in rare circumstance die.
- Measles is spread by the respiratory route. It spreads easily when an infected person breathes, coughs or sneezes. A person with measles is infectious (can spread the disease to other people) from four days before a typical rash appears.
- The best way to protect your family is for you and your children to have had the scheduled two doses of the MMR, a **safe and effective vaccine** that protects against Measles Mumps and Rubella.
- If you or your children are not up-to-date with your vaccines contact your GP and they will arrange for you to receive the MMR.
- For more information about MMR, speak to your GP or Nurse or visit this link to access a briefing document for schools

<https://phw.nhs.wales/topics/immunisation-andvaccines/vaccine-resources-for-health-and-social-care-professionals/measles-and-mmrvaccination-programme-briefing-document-2024-pdf/>

We are asking parents to be alert for symptom of measles and to not send their children to school if they are unvaccinated and have any of the symptoms below:

- Cold-like symptoms like a runny nose, sneezing and cough.
- Red, sore, watery eyes.
- High temperature (fever).
- Rash that usually starts on the head/neck before spreading down the body.
- Small white spots inside cheeks and the back of lips.

It's very unlikely to be measles if you've had 2 doses of the MMR vaccine or you've had measles before. If you or your child develops these symptoms and is unvaccinated please call your GP or NHS111. The person with suspected measles should not go to any health setting (GP, hospital or pharmacy) without ringing ahead first and advising of any symptoms that might suggest measles.

For further information please visit Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) - Public Health Wales (nhs.wales) and Measles - NHS (www.nhs.uk)

Yours sincerely

Mrs Fay Green,
Head Teacher.