

19-21 Broad Street | St Helier  
Jersey | JE2 3RR

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024

Dear Parent / Guardian

**Re: Protecting your child against measles**

You may be aware that there is a measles outbreak in England. Although we do not have any measles cases in Jersey, this letter is to advise you how to protect your child and others.

**Measles can cause very serious illness.**

Measles usually causes a runny nose, red eyes, cough, high temperature and rash. It can also cause complications including ear infections, diarrhoea, pneumonia and convulsions. It is more likely to be serious in pregnant women, people whose immunity is not working properly and babies under a year of age.

**Measles spreads very easily**

Measles is one of the most infectious diseases. You can catch measles if you spend 15 minutes with someone who has the disease. It spreads very quickly through schools if pupils have not been protected by having two Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccines.

**MMR vaccine provides safe and effective protection against Measles, Mumps and Rubella**

If your child has not received two MMR vaccinations, we would recommend they are protected against measles through vaccination. If you are unsure whether they have been vaccinated with both doses telephone 01534 443741, the Child Health Administration team will check your child's immunisation history recorded on the Child Health computer. This will be an opportunity for you to book your child into a catch-up clinic for any outstanding vaccination.

If possible, please bring your child's Red Book (or immunisation record card) with you to any appointment.

Further information is available at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/mmr-vaccine/>

Yours sincerely

The Immunisation Nurse Specialist Team