



Daycare and Nursery School
Love, Laugh, Learn

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1st February 2024

Measles Concern

You will be aware from the media, and from our many messages, that cases of measles are rising fast, within the West Midlands region in particular. Measles is a very infectious virus that spreads quickly if people have not had the MMR vaccine. For maximum protection, two doses of MMR are needed. **A version of MMR is available which does NOT contain pork ingredients.**

If you do not know if your child has had at least 1 dose of MMR, please check in your child's red book or contact your child's GP practice for confirmation.

If your child has not had at least one dose of the MMR vaccine, they will need to isolate for up to 21 days in the event of a positive case in school.

Further information on the MMR vaccine can be found on the NHS website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/mmr-vaccine/>

Measles can cause severe illness, especially in certain at-risk groups including babies and small children, pregnant women, and people with weak immunity. Complications could mean hospitalisation, permanent disability, and in rare cases, it can even cause death.

What are the symptoms of measles?

- Cold-like symptoms such as runny or blocked nose, sneezing and cough
- Red, sore watery eyes
- High temperature (fever) which may reach around 40C / 104F
- A non-itchy, red-brown rash usually appears 3-5 days later (sometimes starts around the ears before spreading to rest of the body), spots may be raised and join to form blotchy patches – which may be harder to see on darker skin tones



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Maintained Nursery Schools



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What do I do if my child has suspected measles?

If children have symptoms of measles, they are to stay at home or will be sent home from nursery if they are in our care. Children should not be brought to nursery with any symptoms of measles. Please contact us via telephone (do not come in) if you suspect your child may have measles.1001

Advice is available on the following websites:

- NHS: [Measles - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)
- UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA): [Measles outbreak could spread warns UKHSA Chief Executive - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)
- NHS 111: [Get help for your symptoms - NHS 111](http://www.nhs.uk)

Advice should also be sought from your child's GP practice. You should NOT to go to your GP practice or any other healthcare provider if you suspect Measles – instead, you should phone for advice and say it could be measles.

What we now need from you:

When your child next attends nursery, please bring their 'red book' in with you, or other evidence to demonstrate that they have had at least one dose of MMR. This will support us moving forwards to understand which children need to isolate in the event of us having a positive case in nursery. Please do not delay in doing this.

If evidence is not provided, we will assume that your child needs to isolate in the event of a positive case in nursery.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us – (0121) 675 3065. Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully,

David Aldworth
Executive Head Teacher



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