

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: National Catch up Campaign for MMR

You may be aware that there has been an increase in the number of measles cases nationally. A catch up campaign targeting children and teenagers who have missed their MMR vaccine is currently underway. MMR vaccine provides safe and effective protection against measles, mumps and rubella. Children growing up in the UK have the first MMR when they have just turned one, and a second MMR before school entry. Two doses of MMR are needed to get the best protection from measles. We know that there are children and teenagers particularly in the age group, 10-16 years that are not protected as they missed one or both of their MMR doses when they were younger.

Measles is a highly infectious disease that is spread by coughing and sneezing. It usually causes a runny nose, red eyes, cough, high temperature and rash. Measles can also cause serious complications, which is why it is important that you ensure your child has been fully protected with 2 doses of the MMR vaccine.

If you are unsure about your child/ teenager's vaccination status then please contact your GP who holds their health record. If they require MMR then your GP will arrange for vaccination.

There is more information on measles and MMR on the [NHS Choices](#) website.

Angela Hardman

Director of Public Health

Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council