

# Paulton Infant School



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*"Learning Together, Learning for Life"*

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Dear Parent / Carer

## Measles & MMR Vaccination

Last week the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) issued a warning over the rising number of measles cases nationwide.

Measles is a highly infectious virus that can cause serious illness. It spreads very easily among those who are unvaccinated, especially in nurseries and schools, and can be a very unpleasant illness; some children can have a very serious reaction to the virus, leading to hospitalisation, and in very rare cases, it can cause death.

To help reduce the risk of measles cases, the UKHSA is advising that everyone is alerted to the signs and symptoms of measles and urges people to check that they and their families are fully vaccinated against the virus.

Measles symptoms include:

High fever	Aching and feeling generally unwell
Sore, red, watery eyes	A blotchy red/brown rash appear after a few days This typically appears on the face and behind the ears, before spreading to the rest of the body. This can be harder to see on brown and black skin.
Coughing	

Vaccines are our best line of defence against diseases like measles and help stop outbreaks in our communities. We therefore encourage everyone to check that they and their families have had two doses of the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine. You can check your child's personal health record (PCHR), also known as the Red Book, or contact your GP practice to confirm.

The MMR vaccine is free to everyone, at any age, on the NHS. While it is better to have your vaccinations on time, you can still catch up on most, including the MMR vaccine, if you miss them.

Please speak to your GP surgery if:

- You think you or your child has missed any vaccination
- You need to book or change a vaccine appointment
- At any age, you're not sure if you or your child has had two doses of the MMR vaccine.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Emily Omell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'E'.

Emily Omell  
Headteacher