

London Borough of Sutton

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Chief Executive Directorate

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Date: 22nd May 2018



To: Parents/Guardians/Carers of children in Sutton Schools

I have been notified of a number of cases of confirmed and suspected measles in South West London. I wanted to write to you now to remind you about the importance of immunising your child.

Please reply to
Public Health
London Borough of Sutton
Civic Offices
St Nicholas Way
Sutton, Surrey
SM1 1EA

www.sutton.gov.uk

What is Measles?

Measles is a highly infectious viral illness and can have serious complications. Measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine is the safest way to protect against measles.

MMR vaccination

I strongly recommend that you make sure your child is up to date with MMR vaccine. The first dose is usually given at one year of age and the second dose from three years and four months.

Two doses of MMR vaccine give the best protection against measles. The vaccine is safe and effective. If your child has not had two doses of MMR vaccine, please contact your GP surgery or practice nurse to get an appointment for them to have it.

Further information

If your child has a weakened immune system (i.e. is immunocompromised) please contact your GP for advice.

If you think that your child may have measles, please contact your doctor. Please phone ahead and mention measles, so you can be isolated when you arrive at the surgery, to stop the disease spreading to others in the waiting room.

Children with measles are infectious from when the symptoms develop until about four days after the rash first appears. Please keep your child away from school or nursery until after this time and avoid contact with other people.

NHS choices has more information about measles:

<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Measles/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

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Chief Executive
Niall Bolger