

Measles

There has been an increase in cases of measles nationally, so school and nursery staff are encouraged to be aware of symptoms and what to do if you get a case, or cases, within your setting.

It can lead to serious complications and is highly infectious. It will spread rapidly within educational settings among those without immunity from vaccination or previous infection.

Given the risk to staff working with children, we would advise that they check their vaccination status and catch up with any missed vaccines. More information is provided here:

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

What to look for

Information, including photos, can be found here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/>

Symptoms include a runny nose; cough; conjunctivitis (sore, itchy, watery, red and sticky eyes); high fever and small white spots (Koplik spots) inside the cheeks. Around day 3 of the illness, a rash of flat red or brown blotches appear, beginning on the face, behind the ears and spreading over the body.

Koplik spots:



Measles rash:



If a child presents with these symptoms exclude them from school/nursery and advise the parents/carers to follow the advice in this link: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/>

Note that symptoms may present differently dependent on the skin tone.

What you need to do

Exclude the infected individual from setting until 4 days after the onset of the rash (where the date of the rash onset is day 0).

Encourage all children and young people over the age of one year old to have the combined MMR vaccination as per the [national immunisation schedule](#).

You should let us know by emailing HealthProtectionHub@telford.gov.uk or calling 01952 381800.

Any staff who are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated with the MMR vaccination should be encouraged to seek advice from their general practitioner or practice nurse.

Advise individuals with a weak immune system, pregnant staff and children under 12 months who come into contact with measles to seek prompt medical advice. When contacting the GP or midwife they should inform them that there has been exposure to a case of measles.

Vaccination

Anyone who is unsure if their child is up to date with all their routine vaccinations should check their child's Red Book (personal child health record) in the first instance. If they are still not sure, or if they need to bring their child up to date with their vaccines, they should contact their GP practice to check and book an appointment.

Health Protection Hub

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