

Rise in cases of measles in Leeds

In January 2024 the UK Health Security Agency declared a national UK Measles incident and as expected we are now seeing a rise in measles in Leeds. This is mainly among unvaccinated children.

What is measles

Symptoms of Measles

- A high temperature
- Runny or blocked nose
- Sneezing
- A cough
- Red sore watery eyes
- Small white spots inside of the cheeks and on the back of the lips
- A rash that starts on the face and behind the ears before spreading to the rest of the body



If you think your child has measles call 111 or your GP surgery, it is important to call ahead to make them aware before visiting the surgery or emergency department.

Do not send your child to school if you suspect they may have measles.

How serious is measles?

Measles is a highly infectious disease that can lead to serious complications including fits, damage to the brain or in severe cases, death. Unvaccinated children are most at risk of severe complications from measles.

For more information on Measles visit [Measles - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk) or download this leaflet to understand more about the MMR vaccination [MMR vaccine which helps protect against all three - Health Publications](#). This leaflet is also available in [Bengali](#), [Ukrainian](#), [Yoruba](#), [Polish](#), [Romanian](#) and [Somali](#)

How to protect your child from measles

We are urging you to make sure that your children are up to date with their measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccination to protect them from measles and to reduce the risk of any potential outbreaks.

The MMR vaccination will have been offered to your child at 12 months and 3 years 4 months.

If you are unsure whether your child is up to date you can check their red book or speak to their GP. If they are not up to date it is not too late for them to catch up. They can get the MMR vaccination free from their GP

What to do if you think your child has measles

If you think your child has measles call NHS 111 or your GP surgery, it is important to call ahead to make them aware before visiting the surgery or emergency department.

Do not send your child to school if you suspect they may have measles.



UK Health
Security
Agency

Measles: How to Stay Safe

The best protection is 2 doses of the safe, effective MMR vaccine at 1 year of age, and 3 years, 4 months



If you have not had two doses, you can get them free from your GP surgery



Know the symptoms!
Keep people with symptoms away from others



Call ahead before going to A&E or your GP



Symptoms

Rash



Temperature



Runny Nose



Red Eyes



Cough

