

Date: 27th May 2026
Your Ref:
Our Ref:



Department of Public Health
3rd Floor, Town Hall,
Bolton. BL1 1RU
Tel: 01204 333333

FAO: Head/Manager of Early Years/Private Nursery Settings

www.bolton.gov.uk

Dear Head/Manager of Early Years/Private Nursery Settings

Re: Measles Mumps and Rubella (MMR) & Measles Mumps, Rubella and Varicella (MMRV)

I am writing to you following the recent increase in measles cases noted in the United Kingdom, including a small number of confirmed measles cases in Greater Manchester and Bolton.

Measles is highly infectious and can spread easily. Vaccines can help protect us all from serious and highly infectious disease and illness.

We were asking for your continued support with our local campaign to increase the number of Bolton children protected against measles and other serious infectious diseases, following the rise of measles positive cases nationally by:

- Promoting the uptake of MMR/MMRV vaccination with parents/carers for their children in your setting.
- Encouraging parents and carers to check their children are up to date with MMR/MMRV vaccination by either looking at their child's Red Book (personal child health record) or contacting their GP.
- Promoting the uptake of MMR vaccine in your employees.

The MMR/MMRV vaccine is a safe and highly effective way to get protected from measles, mumps and rubella, and, if eligible, varicella (chicken pox). Two doses are required to be best protected. Whilst the MMR/MMRV vaccine is part of the national children's immunisation programme, it is important for all of us to be protected. Adults who have not received MMR vaccination are encouraged to speak to their GP, to check if they are protected. It's never too late to get vaccinated.

Directorate of Public Health Services

Bolton Blackrod Farnworth Horwich Kearsley Little Lever South Turton Westhoughton ...all in the family

Information about vaccinations and when to have them can be found in the links below:

[NHS vaccinations and when to have them - NHS](#)
[MMR \(measles, mumps and rubella\) vaccine - NHS](#)

If you are contacted by a parent or carer who believes that the child in their care is suspected of having measles we encourage you to contact the Community Infection Prevention Team or the Bolton Council Health Protection Team for further advice as below:

Bolton Council Health Protection Team, by emailing healthprotection@bolton.gov.uk or by calling us on 01204 336004.

Bolton's Community Infection Prevention Control Team by emailing cipct@boltonft.nhs.uk or by calling them on 01204 390982.

Kind regards

Bolton Council Health Protection Team



Helen Shearer
Head of Start Well; *Strategic Lead for Early Years & Family Hubs*