

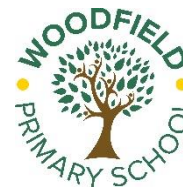


St Bartholomew's CE Multi Academy  
Sedgley Road  
Penn  
Wolverhampton  
West Midlands  
WV4 5LG

## Woodfield Primary School

Executive Headteacher: Mr S Arnold  
Telephone: 01902 558835  
Email: woodfieldprimary@wolverhampton.gov.uk

CEO: Katy Kent



Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024

### RE: Measles

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have recently attended a meeting where information was shared regarding the increased number of measles' cases. It was led by The Health Protection and Healthcare Team for sharing with school members, parents, and carers.

### Measles Action: Suspected Measles

#### **What is measles?**

Measles is a very infectious virus, which spreads quickly if people have not had the MMR vaccine. Two doses of MMR are needed for maximum protection. A version of MMR is available which does NOT contain pork ingredients.

Measles can cause severe illness, especially in certain at-risk groups including babies and small children, pregnant women, and people with weak immunity. Complications could mean hospitalisation, permanent disability, and in rare cases, it can even cause death.

#### **What are the symptoms of measles?**

- Cold-like symptoms such as runny or blocked nose, sneezing and cough.
- Red, sore watery eyes.
- High temperature (fever) which may reach around 40°C / 104°F.
- A non-itchy, red-brown rash usually appears 3-5 days later (sometimes starts around the ears before spreading to rest of the body), spots may be raised and join to form blotchy patches – which may be harder to see on darker skin tones.

#### **What do I do if a child has suspected measles?**

If children have symptoms of measles, they must stay at home or return home. **Parents must not bring their children to school with any symptoms of measles.**

Suspected measles may cause concern. Advice is available on the NHS website, UKHSA webpages, NHS 111 and from the person's GP. Parents must NOT go to their GP practice or any other healthcare provider – instead, they should phone for advice and say it could be measles.

#### **Preventing and controlling infections**

Please follow UKHSA guidance. **USE THIS QR CODE and go to page 36, and take note of the following:**

- If **pupils or staff** have measles, they should be off school until **4 days** after the rash begins.
- Contacts of cases at higher risk of developing measles (eg unvaccinated siblings) should be advised to self-exclude from school for the incubation period (**21 days after contact with a case of measles**).



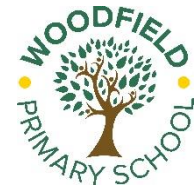


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### **Measles is a notifiable disease**

If in doubt, follow the '**Think Measles guidance**' and ensure that you report a possible case to the **UKHSA West Midlands Health Protection Team**:

**Call:** 0344 225 3560 (option 2)

**Email:** [BAT@ukhsa.gov.uk](mailto:BAT@ukhsa.gov.uk) for non-clinical enquiries

**To contact the UKHSA West Midlands Acute Response Centre directly, use:**

[Westmidlands.arc@ukhsa.gov.uk](mailto:Westmidlands.arc@ukhsa.gov.uk) – for general non-sensitive emails

[Phe.wmarc@nhs.net](mailto:Phe.wmarc@nhs.net) – if you need to send sensitive information

Further information and resources are available on the [Measles/MMR page on the Black Country ICB website](#).

I hope you find this information useful.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

*S Arnold*

S Arnold  
Executive Headteacher

