



## Birkby Infant & Nursery School

Blacker Road, Birkby,  
Huddersfield,  
HD1 5HQ

Tel: 01484 223969

E-Mail: [office.birkbyinf@kirkleeseducation.uk](mailto:office.birkbyinf@kirkleeseducation.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Diana Wilson

September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

The number of children catching measles is rising in the UK so it's important all children are fully protected. If your child is not vaccinated, they are at risk of catching the virus.

Measles, mumps and rubella are highly infectious illnesses that can easily spread between unvaccinated people. Complications from these diseases can potentially be life changing.

Children need two doses of the safe and effective MMR vaccine, with the first dose given around the child's first birthday, and the second dose given at around three years and four months old. Both doses are needed to ensure full and lasting protection against measles, mumps and rubella.

The MMR vaccine is one of the most studied vaccines in the world, with millions of doses given every year. It is safe for and will protect your child, family and friends and the wider community from these diseases. If your child hasn't been vaccinated yet, or is not up to date with their MMR vaccinations, please contact your GP to book an appointment.

Spending 15 minutes or more in direct contact with someone infected with measles is enough to catch the infection. People whose immunity is compromised, pregnant women and unvaccinated children are at increased risk of severe disease.

Measles symptoms to be aware of include:

- high fever
- sore, red, watery eyes
- coughing
- aching and feeling generally unwell
- a blotchy red brown rash, which usually appears after the initial symptoms.

Anyone with symptoms that could be measles is advised to stay at home and phone their GP or NHS 111 for advice, rather than visiting the surgery or A&E. This is because measles spreads very quickly and easily and so it is important to try and prevent the illness spreading further.

Yours Sincerely

Diana Wilson  
Headteacher

