

A message for parents and carers from Public Health Salford regarding Measles.

Measles cases are rising across the UK. Over the last 4 weeks, there has been a rapid rise in cases. The majority of cases have been in children under 10, however anyone who has not had both doses of the vaccine is at risk

Measles spreads very easily among those who are unvaccinated, especially in nurseries and schools. It can be a very unpleasant illness and in some children can be very serious and lead to hospitalisation.

Having the MMR vaccine is the best way to prevent serious illness. Two doses of the vaccine gives lifelong protection against measles, mumps and rubella. The MMR vaccine is given at one year old and again at around three years and four months in readiness for starting school. It is often given at the same time as the pre-school booster.

**We urge parents to check their child's MMR immunisations are up to date with both doses by checking your child's immunisation record (Red book) or by contacting their GP surgery.**

If your child is not vaccinated, please contact your GP for an appointment. Anyone can get measles if they haven't been vaccinated so if you as parents and carers are not vaccinated we would urge you to book an appointment.

For more information about measles, see the [nhs.uk website](https://www.nhs.uk).