



**South West
Yorkshire Partnership**
NHS Foundation Trust

Barnsley School Aged Immunisation Service
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Dear Parent/Carer,

Measles and Vaccination

Measles is a highly infectious disease, spreading quickly from person to person, especially in schools. A child with measles will infect almost all unprotected children they have contact with.

Measles outbreaks happen when not enough children have been vaccinated. Cases of measles have been rising in the UK and, in recent months, **cases of measles have been found in Barnsley and Sheffield**. Measles can be a very serious disease, leading to ear and chest infections, fits, diarrhoea, and damage to the brain. **Measles can kill.**

Your child is at risk of measles if he or she hasn't had the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccination. Two doses of MMR vaccine are needed to get the best protection.

If your child is due to have had 2 doses of MMR but has not yet received them, you should contact Barnsley SAIS to get them vaccinated as soon as possible.

If you can't remember if your child has had any, 1 or 2 doses of MMR vaccine, check their personal child health record (the Red Book). If this doesn't help, speak to Barnsley SAIS using the contact details above.

If you don't know how many doses your child has had, it's better to have 2 doses of MMR vaccine now rather than risk leaving them unprotected.

Yours sincerely

Barnsley School Aged Immunisation Service

Chair: Marie Burnham Chief executive officer: Mark Brooks



With **all of us** in mind.