

Director of Public Health
Iona Lidington



Royal Borough of Kingston upon
Thames
Guildhall 2
High Street
Kingston upon Thames
KT1 1EU

iona.lidington@kingston.gov.uk
www.kingston.gov.uk

4th September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Is your child up to date with their childhood immunisations?

I am writing to make you aware that cases of measles have been rising in England this year. Measles infection can be a serious illness and it is of particular concern in London due to low MMR vaccination rates. MMR vaccination helps protect against measles infection. Recent UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) research suggests London could be facing a major measles outbreak unless MMR vaccination rates improve.

I would like to remind parents and carers that the best way to make sure your child is protected against measles is to ensure they have received 2 doses of the MMR vaccine that protects against measles, mumps and rubella (MMR). If you are not sure if your child has had MMR or any of other routine childhood vaccinations, please check their Red Book or contact your GP surgery.

Routine vaccinations are free and an appointment can be made with your GP to catch up on any that have been missed. For more information visit:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/nhs-vaccinations-and-when-to-have-them/>.

If you would like more information on MMR vaccination, the NHS in South West London are hosting a webinar aimed at South West London parents.

The online MMR webinar is taking place on **Wednesday 13th September, 6-7:30pm**.

This webinar will provide you with information about the MMR vaccine. You will also have the opportunity to get your questions answered by local healthcare professionals.

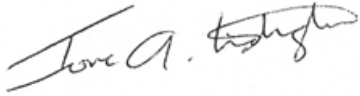
The webinar is free to join. You can book your place by visiting:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nhs-sw1-measles-mumps-and-rubella-webinar-tickets-709381026747?aff=oddtcreator>

Thank you for your support in protecting your child.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish your child and you a happy and healthy new school year.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Iona A. Lidington". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'I' and a long, sweeping underline.

Iona Lidington
Director of Public Health