



# ULVERSTON VICTORIA HIGH SCHOOL



Springfield Road, Ulverston, Cumbria LA12 0EB

Telephone: 01229 483900

Web: [www.uvhs.uk](http://www.uvhs.uk) E-mail: [uvhs@uvhs.uk](mailto:uvhs@uvhs.uk)

Headteacher: Mr Matthew Hardwick B.A. (Hons), N.P.Q.H.

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Alessandra Desbottes M.A. (Oxon)

Our Ref:

**MHa/CPI**

*An exceptional school at the heart of the community*

**15<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

Dear Parents/Carers

Following on from our letter at the beginning of the week about Measles, which we were instructed to distribute by the UK Health Security Agency, we have now been asked by the Westmorland & Furness Communications Team to forward you this **update** from UKHSA:

**From the UK Health Security Agency:**

**We are writing to provide an update following the letter shared earlier this week regarding measles.**

Currently there are no laboratory confirmed cases of measles linked to this school or in Cumbria. However, we are seeing an increase of cases being reported nationally and clusters of confirmed measles cases in the North West. There have been outbreaks of measles in schools in other parts of the country.

When a suspected case of measles is notified to us by a school, UKHSA undertakes a rapid risk assessment and shares precautionary information for teachers and parents. UKHSA then cross-checks to confirm whether there have been any suspected cases of measles within that local authority area. In this case, a national template letter from UKHSA was shared with the school which suggested there was a confirmed case of measles which is not accurate. We understand that this may have caused some confusion and concern among parents. In response, we are reviewing our internal processes.

We always urge parents to ensure their children are up to date with their MMR vaccinations and are aware of the signs and symptoms of measles. Measles is highly infectious, and the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine is the safest way to protect your child against these diseases, which can have serious complications.

**MMR vaccination**

We strongly recommend that all children are up-to-date with their MMR vaccine. Children routinely receive their first dose around their first birthday or soon afterwards and their second dose from three years four months old (pre-school). If your child has not yet received the MMR vaccine or you are unsure, please arrange to receive this through your GP or practice nurse as soon as possible.

If you think your child may have measles, please contact your doctor and let the school know. Children with measles remain infectious for about four days after onset of the rash and should be kept away from school until after this time. If you are going to your GP or hospital with a child who you think may have measles, please let the healthcare facility know, so that they can help prevent any possible onwards spread.



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Further information about measles and MMR vaccination can be found via the NHS at:  
<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Measles/Pages/Introduction.aspx>



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