



NHS North West London 15 Marylebone Road London NW1 5JD

4<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Dear Parents.

We all want to keep our children safe and protected from serious illness. This is why we are asking you to support a focus on encouraging parents in North West London to ensure that their child is up to date on their routine immunisation course. The summer holidays are a good opportunity to catch up on any outstanding vaccinations before children return to school and start mixing again.

Vaccination rates have been falling in London, which was further exacerbated during the pandemic. We need to maintain a high level of vaccine uptake across the population to reduce the risk of outbreaks and the potentially serious impacts on children's health.

Since February we have seen an increase in the number of cases of measles across North West London which may develop into life-threatening illnesses such as meningitis and pneumonia.

## Booking a vaccine over the summer

Any children in London who are not up to date with their routine vaccinations can book one over the summer holidays.

## Where do I get my child's vaccine?

Your child can get their routine vaccinations at their GP surgery.

The NHS has also been contacting the parents of children who are not fully vaccinated to book an appointment at their GP practice or to access them at specialist community clinics in your local area. These will continue over the summer.

- For more information on childhood diseases e.g. measles: <u>Health A to Z NHS</u> (www.nhs.uk)
- NHS vaccination schedule: <u>NHS vaccinations and when to have them NHS (www.nhs.uk)</u>
- Why vaccines are safe and effective Why vaccination is safe and important NHS (www.nhs.uk)

If you have any queries or require further information please contact nhsnwl.immunisations@nhs.net

Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully,

NHS North West London Immunisations Team