HEALTHY EARLY YEARS LONDON
Colindale Primary School Immunisation Statement

Date 05/10/2026
Date to be reviewed Autumn Term 2029

Aims
As a Healthy Early Years London setting, we want to ensure that we promote the health and well-being of the whole setting community through encouraging parents/carers to immunise children and by providing consistent messages to children, parents/carers and staff.

We are aware of the importance of immunisation
Immunisation is the safest way of protecting children against serious diseases. Some diseases can kill children or cause lasting damage to their health. Immunisation prepares children's bodies to fight off diseases if they come into contact with them.

We are aware that there has recently been a drop in the number of children being immunised which has caused outbreaks of some diseases. The low uptake of childhood immunisation has led to more children suffering from vaccine preventable diseases such as measles, mumps, whooping cough and polio.

We promote positive messages about immunisation and encourage parents/carers to fully immunise their children
We confidently approach parents and carers about children's immunisation status. If a child is not immunised, we encourage parents or carers to go to their GP or talk to their health visitor to find out more about immunisations. There is also information available for parents and carers, including information on what immunisations are given and when www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/Pages/childhood-vaccination-schedule.aspx .

We are confident to share key messages to parents and carers about immunisation, such as:

- immunisations save lives
- it is important to make sure babies are protected as early as possible
- it is never too late to have a child immunised even if a child has missed an immunisation and is older than the recommended ages
- vaccines are quick, safe and extremely effective. It is common for children to have some redness, a rash or swelling where the needle goes in, this should only last about a day
- the Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine does not cause autism
- when a child is immunised, it helps to protect the whole community, this is important because some children with medical conditions or allergies cannot have certain vaccines.

We also offer information and advice for parents and carers in preparing children for vaccination injections.

We have a procedure in place for checking and recording children's immunisation status
We understand that it is very important to maintain and keep an up to date record of children's immunisation status. Some children under our care may be at a higher risk of exposure to infectious diseases due to contact with more children and adults than children at home. Keeping a current record of all children's immunisation status helps us to quickly identify which parents/carers need to be informed if there is an outbreak of a specific disease. **Children's immunisation status is recorded on Arbor.**

We have a procedure in place for reporting an outbreak of infection
We understand that it is very important to contact our local health protection team as soon as we suspect an outbreak to discuss the situation and agree if any actions are needed. An outbreak is defined as being when there are two or more cases. Keeping a record of total numbers affected (staff and children), symptoms and date(s) when symptoms

started helps us to inform the health protection team of the size and nature of the outbreak. We are aware of the list of notifiable diseases and receive updates on this.

Useful Links

- Public Health England. Health Protection in schools and other childcare facilities - https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities
- Public Health England. Immunisation - https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/chapter-5-immunisation
- Public Health England. What to do if you suspect an outbreak of infection - https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/chapter-4-what-to-do-if-you-suspect-an-outbreak-of-infection
- Health Protection Team Contact Details - https://www.gov.uk/health-protection-team
- Full List of Notifiable Diseases - https://www.gov.uk/guidance/notifiable-diseases-and-causative-organisms-how-to-report#list-of-notifiable-diseases
- Childhood Immunisation Schedules - https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-complete-routine-immunisation-schedule