***First dose / second dose:***

Date: XXXXXX

Your child’s NHS number:

Parent/guardian of XXX

Address 1

Address 2

Address 3

Address 4

Postcode

**Measles cases are rising in England, the NHS is inviting your child for their measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccination**

Dear parent/guardian of XXX

Our records show that your child <insert name> hasn’t yet had their <first / second> dose of the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine.

Measles cases are on the rise in England and figures are already over double that of last year. Measles can be very serious and one in five will require a hospital visit. If you haven’t already, we encourage you to book a vaccination appointment for your child now to help protect them from measles, mumps and rubella. It’s safe, quick and free as part of the NHS routine immunisation schedule.

**What do I need to do next?**

If you already have an appointment booked for your child to have their MMR vaccine, you don’t need to do anything further other than take them to their booked appointment. If your child doesn’t already have an appointment booked, contact the GP practice on <insert phone number> to book their appointment.

If you think your child may have had their MMR vaccine, you can check in their personal health record (Red Book). If they have had the vaccine, please contact the GP Practice to update their records.

It may be possible for your child to have other routine vaccinations they are due to have at the same appointment, such as polio and the seasonal flu nasal spray. You can see what vaccines your child should have at: [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk) (search for ‘NHS vaccinations and when to have them’).

**GP / Primary care** **sign off / signatory**

**More information on MMR vaccine and risks of being unvaccinated**

Measles, mumps, and rubella are highly infectious illnesses that can easily spread between unvaccinated people. The complications from these diseases can be life changing. It’s more important than ever to keep your child safe by getting them vaccinated as cases of measles have risen across the globe in recent years, including in England.

If unvaccinated nine out of ten children in a classroom will catch measles from an infected classmate. One in five children will require a hospital visit and one in fifteen children will have complications from being unwell with measles, such as meningitis and sepsis.

The MMR vaccine is one of the most studied vaccines and millions of doses are given every year. This means the MMR vaccine is safe to be given to your child.

Two doses of MMR vaccine should provide long lasting protection. The first dose is given after your child’s first birthday. The second dose is given at 3 years 4 months old, or soon after, to protect them before they start school. More information is available at: [www.nhs.uk/mmr](http://www.nhs.uk/mmr%20) or [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) (search for ‘MMR leaflet’).