



Our Ref: HPZ 197638

Dear GP colleagues,

We are writing to inform you that two children attending Churchfield Church School Nursery, Highbridge, have recently been diagnosed with probable pertussis. They both attended nursery whilst infectious.

Public Health England (PHE) carried out a multi-agency risk assessment and decided no specific public health actions are needed, however we wanted to let you know to be vigilant for signs and symptoms of pertussis in patients linked to the nursery or in case you get enquiries from concerned parents.

It is important to note that clinical suspicion of whooping cough warrants notification to Public Health England and that those children should remain away from school for 48 hours from starting antibiotic treatment, or 21 days from onset of illness if no antibiotic treatment is taken.

Whooping cough is preventable by vaccination which is routinely offered to children at 2, 3 and 4 months with a pre-school booster and to all pregnant women. Please take this opportunity to encourage parents to vaccinate their children as per the NHS vaccination schedule.

We will be sending out letters explaining the situation to all parents.

If you have any queries, please call Public Health England's Acute Response Centre on 0300 303 8162 (option 1, option 1)

Yours sincerely

Bayad

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