

Dear Families

We are advising parents that unvaccinated children may need to be excluded if a classmate has measles.

If there is a case of measles at school, ARPHS will request that children or adults do not come to your school if they have been exposed to someone with measles **and**:

- have not had at least one MMR vaccination or other measles vaccination; or
- have not had a blood test or doctor's record showing they are immune to measles; or
- are pregnant and not immune, immunocompromised or are under 15 months old.

ARPHS is aware of the impact on family lives of excluding children or staff members from school for a week or more. However, we do have to balance this with the need to prevent further spread of measles and to protect

- infants, those most at risk of complications if they contract the disease, and the wider community.
- If there is a measles case, we will be looking at each school's situation, focussing on unimmunised close
- contacts. With adequate preparation, this should not require widespread exclusion of students or closure of schools.

Thank you for your help in stopping the spread of measles and protecting the vulnerable in our community.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr Julia Peters  
Clinical Director  
Auckland Regional Public Health Service