IMMUNISATION STATEMENT

Date: 13 October 2026

Date to be reviewed: 13 October 2028

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

We 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.

Information is available for parents and carers, including what immunisations are given and when, in the UK Health Security Agency complete routine immunisation schedule and the NHS guide to vaccinations and when to have them.

We provide information for parents about available services at local children's centres, walk-in clinics, immunisation leaflets adapted for the Russian-speaking community, and immunisation reminders such as a wall calendar specific to the child and adapted to their date of birth.

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 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 on preparing children for vaccination injections.

Routine immunisation schedule — current appointments

The routine childhood schedule in the UK now has **six**appointments:

Age	Vaccines offered
8 weeks	6-in-1 , Rotavirus, MenB
12 weeks	6-in-1, Pneumococcal , Rotavirus
16 weeks	6-in-1, MenB
1 year	Hib/MenC, MMR, Pneumococcal , MenB
18 months	MMRV
3 years 4 months	4-in-1 pre-school booster , MMRV

Note: MMRV replaced the second dose of MMR in the routine schedule from 1 January 2026. Selective hepatitis B vaccination arrangements for babies also changed from 1 July 2025 and 1 January 2026. Staff should always check thecurrent GOV.UK schedule rather than relying on this table alone.

Recording children's immunisation status

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. Medical questionnaires are sent to parents to fill in when applying for nursery.

Reporting an outbreak of infection

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. Guidance on what to do is set out in Health protection in children and young people's settings, including education, including chapter 4: what to do if you suspect an outbreak of infection.

An outbreak is defined as two or more cases of the same infectious disease, linked in place and time .

Keeping a record of the total numbers affected , symptoms and the date 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. Our approach to immunisation followschapter 5: immunisation.

Useful links

UKHSA complete routine immunisation schedule
NHS vaccinations and when to have them
Health protection in children and young people's settings, including education
Chapter 4: what to do if you suspect an outbreak of infection
Chapter 5: immunisation
Find your local health protection team
List of notifiable diseases