



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Department of Public Health East
Health Service Executive
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Dear Parents and Staff,

The Department of Public Health has been notified of a possible cases of mumps in a person attending Our Ladys School, Terenure.

Mumps is a viral infection. Symptoms include fever, headache, and swelling of cheek and jaw. More rarely, meningitis, encephalitis and deafness can occur. People are infectious for up to 7 days before the cheek swelling appears and remain highly infectious for 5 days after the swelling started.

To prevent the spread of mumps we recommend that students:

- **should be vaccinated appropriately with two MMR vaccines. If you have been fully vaccinated the risk of contracting mumps is low.**
- **who develop symptoms of mumps be excluded from school for 5 days following the onset of swelling and**
- **are advised to telephone their General Practitioner for advice on management.**
- **pay particular attention to handwashing and cough / sneeze into tissues which are immediately discarded.**

Students that have not received two doses of the MMR vaccine, or are unsure of their vaccination status, and have not had mumps are advised to attend their GP for vaccination.

The MMR is available free of charge.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us at the above number. For further information see <http://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/vaccinepreventable/mumps/>

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Noelle O'Loughlin MCRN 20399
Senior Medical Officer in Public Health