

Senior Boys

Merchant Taylors' Schools
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Headmaster: David Wickes MA (Oxon)



**MERCHANT
TAYLORS'
SCHOOLS**

For Boys and Girls
aged 4 to 18 years

1st May 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

MUMPS

We would like to inform you that we have recently had a couple of cases of mumps at Merchant Taylors' Boys' School. We have been in contact with Public Health England and have been reassured this is not an outbreak. However, we feel it is important for you to be informed.

Mumps is a contagious viral infection, most recognisable by the painful swellings at the side of the face, under the ears. Other symptoms include headaches, joint pains and a high temperature. These symptoms may appear a few days before the swelling of the glands. Mumps is also contagious a few days before the swelling occurs and Public Health England states your child must not come into school for at least 5 days after the first symptoms appear. The infection should pass within 1-2 weeks. Plenty of rest, fluids and painkillers are advised.

At this time of year there will be understandable concern about boys' health during the public examination season. If your son is in Year 11 or 13 and becomes unwell, please contact his Group Tutor immediately (Mr Yates for Year 11 and Mr Bonfante for Year 13).

It is important to seek medical advice if you suspect your child has mumps but do inform the GP receptionist that you suspect mumps when you make your appointment.

Even though mumps is always circulating within the community, it is advisable for all children to have the mumps vaccination if they have not already. Your GP can arrange this.

For further information, please visit www.nhs.uk/conditions/mumps

Yours sincerely



Mr D Wickes
Headmaster