

Why is this important?

Immunisations are a proven tool for controlling and eliminating life-threatening infectious diseases and are estimated to avert between 2 and 3 million deaths each year globally. The refreshed Immunisations Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) outlines the Lewisham trends in vaccination coverage for routine childhood and adult immunisation, identifies the unmet needs and provides recommendations for future actions to enhance delivery and uptake of immunisation.

Key Facts and Figures

Lewisham is not achieving the most of its immunisation targets, particularly MMR vaccinations



HPV vaccine uptake for females aged 12-13 years has seen an increase since COVID to almost **75%**

**79.1%**  
MMR2 annual uptake in Lewisham for those children aged up to 5 years

Children and young people from vulnerable and ethnically diverse groups are at greater risk of not being fully immunised



89.1% of Lewisham children had 3 doses of the 6-in-1 vaccine by their 1<sup>st</sup> birthday. Above the London average (89%), but below England (92%)

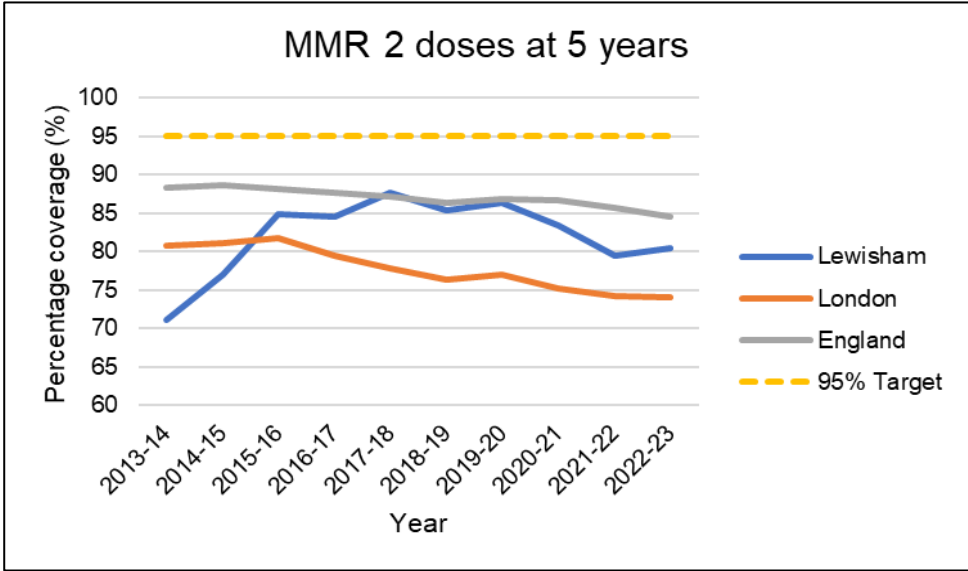
**58%**  
Flu vaccination uptake in Lewisham for those 65 years and over

What is happening nationally?

- WHO’s Immunisation Agenda for 2030 includes coverage and equity, making sure that everyone is protected by full immunisation regardless of location, age, socioeconomic status or gender-related barriers
- The NHS vaccination strategy, December 2023 stated the need to provide supplementary outreach services designed to meet specific needs to increase immunisation uptake
- Improving health outcomes through vaccines is featured on an action plan within the UKHSA strategic plan

What is happening locally?

- Improving immunisation uptake has been prioritised in local strategies, such as Lewisham’s Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Lewisham’s Children and Young People’s Plan
- Prevention and Wellbeing is part of South East London’s Integrated Care Systems Integrated Strategic Priorities, which entails increasing vaccination rates with a particular focus on reducing inequalities experienced by marginalised communities



What needs to be done?

- Improve communication and engagement between healthcare professionals and patients by providing up-to-date, clear and concise information on vaccinations in a range of formats (e.g., leaflets, videos) which can enhance accessibility and understanding for diverse audiences.
- Address specific concerns of parents and adults who are hesitant about vaccinations by providing tailored information to address specific questions and worries.
- Respect individual decisions by creating a space where parents and adults feel heard and respected irrespective of whether they choose to vaccinate or not
- Improve vaccination uptake by ensuring flexible appointment times to accommodate work schedules/other commitments as well as expanding access to vaccinations beyond GP settings.
- Improve data collection and accuracy for more accurate intervention tailoring; better data management within GP practices includes accurate coding, robust call/recall systems to inform local improvement programmes.
- Strengthen relationships between schools and vaccine providers which may increase the accessibility of vaccinations