

September 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

Height and weight checks for children in Year 6

As part of the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) all children in England in year 6 have their height and weight measured every year. Your child's class will take part in this year's measurement programme.

The checks are carried out by trained school nurses or trained health care providers. Children are measured fully clothed, except for their coats and shoes, in a private space away from other pupils.

The information collected by us includes your child's height and weight measurements together with their name, date of birth, gender, home address and postcode, NHS Number and ethnicity. This information about your child is needed because their age, gender, ethnicity and the place they live are known to affect their height and weight. Their name, date of birth and NHS Number is needed to link your child's measurements to other information about your child. The records of children's heights and weights will be made anonymous before being submitted to the national data base for analysis and may be stored locally on child health records.

This information will then be used within the local authority and NHS to help understand and plan interventions for weight-related problems for children and their families and, to look at the delivery of this programme in your area. All this information is treated confidentially and held securely by us. It will not be shared with your child's school or with other children.

If your child is a healthy weight we will not contact you, but results are available by contacting the local team at the contact details in the footer below. Or visit our website;

<https://www.childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk> and search 'school nursing'.

If your child's weight falls outside the predicted norms for their age we will post their results to you within 6 weeks of the date of their measurement.

Information about healthy weight and healthy lifestyles can be found at;

<https://www.healthysurrey.org.uk/your-health/healthy-weight/childrens-healthy-weight>

The information collected from all schools in the area will be gathered together and held securely by Surrey County Council. We will store your child's information on their local child health record on the child health information database. No individual measurements will be given to school staff or other children, and all information will be treated confidentially.

All the information collected about your child will be sent by us to NHS Digital. NHS Digital is responsible for collecting health and care information to check how the NHS and social care services are doing, and to use this to improve the care provided to people across England.

The information collected about your child will also be shared by NHS Digital with Public Health England but in a de-personalised form only. This means Public Health England will not be able to identify your child. Public Health England is responsible for working to protect and improve the nation's health.

Both NHS Digital and Public Health England will use the information from the National Child Measurement Programme to better understand numbers and trends in child weight and body mass index (BMI). This helps with the planning of services to support healthy lifestyles in your area. No information will ever be published by NHS Digital or Public Health England that identifies your child.

If your child was previously measured for the National Child Measurement Programme, NHS Digital may link your child's current and previous height and weight measurements. It may also link their measurements with other information it holds about your child such as their dental survey results or the reasons for any visits they may have made to hospital. Linking your child's information in this way helps better understand how and why the weight status of children is changing.

De-personalised information from the National Child Measurement Programme may also be shared by NHS Digital with other organisations, such as universities. This is to help improve health, care and services through research and planning. This information cannot be used to identify your child, and NHS Digital only ever shares information for research with the approval of an independent group of experts.

Withdrawing your child from the National Child Measurement Programme

If you are happy for your child to be measured, you do not need to do anything.

Written parental consent is not required for this check, however If you are not happy for your child to be included in the National Child Measurement Programme data collection, please complete the opt out form and return it to the school office

Children will not be made to take part on the day if they do not want to.

Yours faithfully,

CFHS School Health team

For more information about how to keep your family fit and healthy visit



www.nhs.uk/change4life or www.healthysurrey.org.uk

Mid Surrey
Ewell Court Clinic
Ewell Court Avenue
Ewell, Epsom
Surrey KT19 0DZ
Tel: 020 8394 8153

Surrey East
Forum House
41-51 Brighton Road
Redhill
Surrey RH1 6YS
Tel: 01737 775465

Surrey West
Goldsworth Park Health Centre
Denton Road
Woking
Surrey GU21 3LQ
Tel: 01483 794883

Opting out your child's data from being included in the National Child Measurement Programme.

Form 1: Opt-out slip

I DO NOT wish my child's height and weight measurements to be included as part of the Year 6 National Child Measurement Programme.

Child's name:

Date of Birth:

Year: 6

Class:

Child's school:

Parent's/Guardian's name:

Parent's/Guardian's signature:

Date:

Please return to your child's school office.