

Leading local care, improving lives in Manchester, with you

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Email: mft.school-nurses-screening@nhs.net

Height and weight checks for children in Reception and Year 6

Every year in England, school children in Reception and Year 6 have their height and weight checked at school as part of the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP). Height and weight measurements are used to calculate weight status. This is done to help us plan the right health, care and support services for children.

The measurements will be undertaken by trained staff from the School Health Service provided by Manchester Local Care Organisation.

The measurements will take place in schools in a sensitive manner. Children who take part will be measured fully clothed except for their coats and shoes.

Please note that your child's information is stored on their health record and may be shared with relevant health professionals to support direct care. No individual measurements will be given to school staff or other children, and all information will be treated confidentially.

Maintaining the wellbeing of children in the NCMP

The wellbeing of children and families is very important. The weight and height information are shared only with you in the parent or carer feedback letter. It is your choice if you share the information with your child.

Your child's data

Your child's height, weight, date of measurement, sex and date of birth are used to calculate your child's weight category (also known as body mass index, or BMI).

Your child's name, date of birth and NHS Number are used to link your child's measurements in reception and year 6.

Your child's ethnicity and address are used to help understand the differences and changes in child weight across England.

How the data is used

All the data collected is also used for research and planning to improve health, care and services.

The information collected from all schools in the area will be gathered and held securely by Manchester City Council. We will store your child's information as part of the local child health record on the NHS's child health information database and share it with the child's GP.











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We will send all the information collected about your child to NHS England. NHS England is responsible for collecting data and information about health and care so that it can be used to monitor and improve the care provided to people across England.

The information collected about your child will also be shared by NHS England with the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) which is part of Department of Health and Social Care but in a depersonalised form only. This means OHID will not receive any information that identifies your child.

Withdrawing your child from the National Child Measurement Programme

If you do not want your child's height and weight to be checked, or your child has a medical condition that affects their height or weight please let us know using the team email:

mft.school-nurses-screening@nhs.net or phone 0161 529 6550

Please provide: Child's name; DOB; school and contact number.

What happens next?

Following the height and weight measurements, you will receive a letter from the School Health Screening Team with your child's results.

Further information

The National Child Measurement Programme

Easy ways to eat well and move more.



Yours faithfully,

Dr Cordelle Ofori Director of Public Health Manchester City Council

Sean McKendrick Director of Children's Services Manchester City Council

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