

Growing Healthy Sunderland 0-19 Service
Unit 7 Camberwell Way
Sunderland
SR3 3XN
SPOC: 03000 031 552
Email: spoc.hdftsunderland@nhs.net
Date:

Dear Parent / Carer,

You are receiving this information as your child is in Reception or is in Year 6 at primary school.

Growing Healthy Sunderland 0-19 Public Health Service, offer health screening to all school aged children. The programme for the **2024/2025** school year is:

Reception	Year 6
National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP)	National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP)
Hearing Screening – you will be contacted at a future date regarding hearing screening.	

Height and weight checks for children in Reception and Year 6 2024/2025

Each year in England, school children in Reception and Year 6 have their height and weight checked at school as part of the NCMP, carried out by trained staff. Data from the NCMP shows national and local trends in children's growth over time. It is important that we understand this, so that advice and information can be given to support children and their families. Collecting this data also helps us to plan better health and leisure services within local communities. All information is treated confidentially, anonymously and accessible only to authorised staff (see further information below).

Your child's class will take part in this year's programme. If you are happy for your child to be measured, you do not need to do anything.

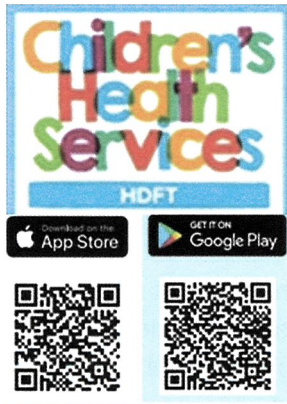

If you do not want your child's height and weight to be checked, or your child has a medical condition that affects their height or weight, please let us know by contacting us on 03000031552 or emailing spoc.hdftsunderland@nhs.net within 2 weeks of the date at the top of this letter. Children will not be made to take part on the day if they do not want to.

If your child is outside the healthy weight range, you will receive a letter that includes information and access to support about maintaining a healthy weight. We may contact you by phone to discuss their results and can offer you advice and support. If your child is growing as expected, you will not receive a letter. However, if you would like to receive your child's measurements, please contact us.

If you have a **concern** about your child's growth, and would like some support from Growing Healthy Sunderland, you can let us know by contacting us and a school nurse will contact you to offer support.

You can also get information from Children's Health Services, which is an NHS app for Growing Healthy Sunderland, with information to support the health and development of your child. The app has a RECITE ME function to change the content so it works best for you. This includes over 60 languages, a screen reader and making changes to the font size.

The health chat feature is open 9am-5pm Monday to Friday for any concerns or questions you may have.

<p>The app can be downloaded using these QR codes</p> 	<p>Please find more information detailing support we offer children, young people and families throughout their school years on the following link. https://www.hdft.nhs.uk/services/childrens-services/growing-healthy-sunderland/</p> <p>You can also access information regarding fun ideas to help your children stay healthy at https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/</p>	<p>For information about the National Child Measurement Programme</p>  <p>https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-weight/childrens-weight/national-child-measurement-programme/</p>
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Yours thankfully,



Gerry Taylor
Director of Public Health



Amanda Smith
Head of Public Health Nursing and Operations for 0-19 Sunderland

Further information

Your child's data - the information we collect and what it is used for

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.

Other data sets held by NHS England and Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) may also be linked to allow information from health and education records to be added, where lawful to do so. This helps understand how and why the weight of children is changing, and how this affects children's health and education and how the care children receive can be improved. These other data sets may include your child's health data relating to:

- their birth
- hospital care (including time in hospital and out-patient appointments and diagnosis of medical conditions)
- mental health
- social care
- primary care (including all healthcare outside of hospital, such as GP and dental appointments)
- public health (including data relating to preventing ill health, such as immunisation records)
- records for when and the reason why people pass away
- medical conditions, such as cancer and diabetes
- health, lifestyle and wellbeing surveys that your child has participated in.

Your child's ethnicity and address are used to help understand some of the reasons for the difference and changes in child weight across England.

Why we need your contact details

We need your address to send you your child's feedback letter.

We need your email address and phone number because we may:

- contact you by email or phone to discuss your child's feedback
- send you your child's feedback letter by email
- offer you further support following your child's height and weight measurement.

How the data is used

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

All this information is treated confidentially and held securely. No individual measurements will be given to school staff or other children.



The information collected from all schools in the area will be gathered together and held securely by [local authority name]. 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 [local authority to amend as appropriate].

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 DHSC but in a de-personalised form only. This means OHID will not be able to identify your child.

Both NHS England and OHID will use the information from the NCMP to better understand numbers and trends in child weight and BMI. This helps to plan services to support healthy lifestyles in your area. No information will ever be published by NHS England or OHID that identifies your child. NHS England uses the data to produce National Child Measurement Programme statistics reports showing trends at national and local level.

De-personalised information from the NCMP may also be shared by NHS England 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. NHS England only ever shares information for research through formal assurance and approvals processes, seeking advice from experts as necessary.