

Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust
School Nursing Service
Harden Health Centre
Harden Road
Walsall
WS3 1ET

Telephone: 01922 423349

Email: childmeasurement.walsall@nhs.net

Dear Parent / Guardian

Wednesday 6th November 2019

Height and weight checks for children in Reception and Year 6

Each 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. Height and weight measurements are used to calculate weight status. We collect this information because it is in the public interest to understand how many children are a healthy weight or underweight or overweight. Your child's class will take part in this year's programme.

The checks are carried out by trained school nurses or trained health care providers from Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust. Children are measured fully clothed, except for their coats and shoes, in a private space away from other pupils. Children will not be told their measurements and the school will not hold the data.

The information we collect and what it is used for is listed below:

- your child's age, gender, and date of birth are used to calculate your child's weight category
- your child's name, date of birth and NHS Number are used to link your child's measurements from Reception and Year 6. Other data sets may also be linked such as your child's dental survey results or any visits to hospital they may have had. Linking your child's information in this way helps us to understand how and why the weight status of children is changing, and how this affects children's health
- 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
- your address is required to send you your child's feedback letter. This will include your child's measurements together with information about healthy eating, being active and related activities available in your area.

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

All of the data collected is also used for improving health, care and services through research and planning.

How the data is used

The information collected from all schools in the area will be gathered together and held securely by Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust in line with national guidance. All the information collected about your child will be sent by us to NHS Digital. NHS Digital is responsible for collecting data and information about health and care so that this 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 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.

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.

If you do not want your child's height and weight to be checked, please contact the team on 01922 423349 or email childmeasurement.walsall@nhs.net before **Monday 4th November 2019** with your child's name, date of birth and school attended.

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

Yours faithfully

School Nursing Service

National Child Measurement Programme Parent Workshop



The School Nursing Service offer free workshops to parents and carers of Reception and Year 6 children who will be measured as part of the National Child Measurement Programme.

This workshop will explore:

- What is NCMP
- What is a Healthy Lifestyle
- Thinking about food
- Time to exercise
- Community lifestyle services

Place: Radley's Primary School Hall

Date: Monday 21st October 2019

Time: 9.15am – 10.15am

To book a place, please speak to your child's school reception