Hertfordshire Family Centre Service

NHS Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust

Dear Parent/Carer,

Measuring the height and weight of children in Year 6 – 2026 – 27 - Thank you for your vital support

This term, your child's school is taking part in the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP). Over one million children in Reception and Year 6 take part in the NCMP every year. It's a normal part of school life and helps create a healthier future for our children.

As your child is in Year 6, we will measure their height and weight at school. Height and weight measurements are used to calculate weight status. We collect this information to build a picture of how children are growing. This helps us plan better health and leisure services for families.

In some circumstances, we will write to you explaining the result and give information on further support for you and your family.

What happens during the NCMP?

Your child's height and weight will be measured in school by trained healthcare professionals from Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust (HCT) Public Health Nursing (5-19) Team.

Children are measured fully clothed (except for shoes and coats), in a private space away from other pupils. The process takes just a few minutes.

Your child's cultural needs will be respected, and they will not be made to take part if they do not want to be measured.

Please watch this clip for more information about how this programme is delivered locally:

https://youtu.be/uNtJwwHViGk

What information will be collected?

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). The BMI is a useful tool for monitoring children's healthy growth.

Your child's ethnicity and address are collected to monitor differences in child growth and weight between ethnic groups, where children live and their backgrounds.

Hertfordshire

All information is **treated confidentially** and **held securely.** Your child's height or weight **measurements will not be shared** with school staff, your child or other children.

Your child's data

The information collected will be used within the local authority, NHS, and with our partners Maximus UK who provide Beezee (The Hertfordshire Healthy Lifestyle Service). It will also be shared with NHS England and the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC).

Your child's name, date of birth and NHS number are collected to link their measurements from reception and year 6 to other information from health and education records held by NHS England, the Department of Health and Social Care and the Department for Education, where it is legal to do so.

You can read more about how we collect, store and use your child's information in the **Privacy Notice** at the end of this letter.

What you need to do

If you are happy for your child to take part, you don't need to do anything.

If you would prefer for your child not to take part, please access the online opt out form on this link:

School Screening Form

Or if you would like to discuss the information above, please contact the Public Health Nursing (5-19) Team within two weeks of receiving this letter using the details below.

To contact the Public Health Nursing (5-19) Team (between 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday)**:**
Text: 07312 263 002
Call: 0300 123 7572

We thank you for taking the time to read about the NCMP programme and considering your child's involvement.

Yours faithfully,

Sarah Perman
Executive Director of Public Health
Hertfordshire County Council

Jo Fisher
Executive Director or Children's Services
Hertfordshire County Council

Elliot Howard-Jones
Chief Executive

Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust

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Privacy Notice – Data

Your child's measurements are stored locally on NHS child health records for the purposes of providing results and follow-up advice to parents. In some areas your child's results may also be shared with your GP. The data from all schools in the area will be gathered and held securely by Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust. Information regarding how this data is stored by Hertfordshire Community NHS trust can be found here:

https://www.hct.nhs.uk/about-us/data-protection-and-your-information/.

You can read more about how the DHSC collects, stores and uses your child's information and data in the National Child Measurement Programme privacy notice:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-child-measurement-programme-privacy-notice

You can read more about how NHS England collects, stores and uses your child's information and data by scanning the QR code below.

https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/keeping-data-safe-and-benefitting-the-public/gdpr/gdpr-register/national-child-measurement-programme-ncmp-gdpr-information

Read more here about how local authorities, such as Hertfordshire County Council, process NCMP data for research, monitoring, audit, planning services and other public health purposes.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-child-measurement-programme-operational-guidance/national-child-measurement-programme-operational-guidance-2024

Hertfordshire