

SCHOOL NURSING SERVICE

NATIONAL CHILDHOOD MEASUREMENT PROGRAMME AND SCHOOL ENTRY HEALTH SCREENING

Dear Parent / Carer

Measuring the height, weight and hearing checks for children in reception year

Now that your child has started school, the school nursing service will take over responsibility from the health visiting service. During reception year, your child will have the opportunity to be weighed and measured and have their hearing tested. This is part of the universal offer to all children when they start school.

The NHS needs to have a good understanding of how children are growing, so that the best possible health services can be provided for them. As a result, each year, all children in England in reception year as part of the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) will have their height and weight checked. The measurements will be carried out by trained staff from your local school nursing team in a private area in your child's school. Children will be asked to remove their shoes and coats and will be weighed in normal indoor clothing. For further information on what happens to your child's results and other useful information please refer to www.nhs.uk/Livewell/childhealth1-5/Pages/ChildMeasurement.aspx

All information and results will be treated confidentially. Your child's height, weight and hearing results will not be shared with them, other children or school staff. We will enter the results on your child's electronic health record. The NCMP database will place your child's height and weight into one of the following ranges – underweight, healthy weight, overweight and very overweight. If your child falls out of the healthy weight range you will receive a letter by post with further information.

As part of the Healthy Child Programme your child will also have their hearing tested. Please note that this may not happen at the same time as your child is weighed and measured. These results will be sent home to you via your child.

We will be sending a brief health questionnaire to you via school. The questionnaire enables us to identify any support the service can provide to enable your child to stay healthy and happy in school. Please complete this and return via your child's school. If you would like a member of the school nursing service to contact you for support or advice please indicate this on the questionnaire.

Opting your child out of the programme

If you are happy for your child to be weighed and measured and have a hearing test, **you do not need to do anything**. If you would prefer your child not to take part, please inform your local school nursing team in writing within 7 days of receipt of this letter, using the contact details below.

Cont/-

Contact details for children attending schools in the following localities

Wokingham District Council contact:
The School Nursing Team
Wokingham Hospital
Barkham Road
Wokingham
Berkshire, RG41 2RE

Reading Borough Council contact:
The School Nursing Team, Tilehurst Clinic
Corwen Road
Tilehurst
Reading RG30 4SH

West Berkshire District Council contact:
The School Nursing Team,
West Berkshire Community Hospital
London Road
Benham Hill
Thatcham
Berkshire, RG18 3AS

Yours faithfully

The school nursing service