


**To all Parents/Carers of Year 6 Pupils**  
**Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup> of November**  
**Churchtown Primary School**

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

 0151 934 3151

 [Public.Health@sefton.gov.uk](mailto:Public.Health@sefton.gov.uk)

### Height and weight checks for children in Year 6

Every year in England, school children in 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. We collect this information because it is in the public interest to understand how many children are overweight, healthy weight or underweight and offer support to parents where required. Your child's class will take part in this year's programme.

**The checks are carried out by registered School Nurses or trained Health Care Providers. Children are measured fully clothed, except for their coats and shoes, in a private space away from other pupils.**

#### Maintaining the well-being of children in the NCMP

The wellbeing of children and families is very important and as such measurements are conducted in a sensitive way. **Individual results are not shared with your child or their school.** The weight and height information is shared only with you in the parent or carer feedback letter. It is your choice if you share the information with your child.

The emotional impact of the NCMP has been researched and studies show that body image, self-esteem, weight-related teasing and restrictive eating behaviours do not change as a result of being measured or receiving feedback. If you are concerned about your child's growth, weight, body image or eating patterns, please seek further support from your School Nurse or GP.

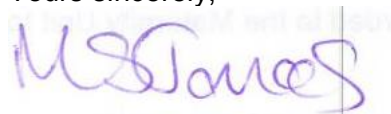
Please find below supplementary information that gives more information on the NCMP, in addition to how data will be stored and used.

#### 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 measured, or your child has a medical condition that affects their height or weight, please let us know by contacting the **School Nursing Team** on **0151 247 6354.**

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

Yours sincerely,



Margaret Jones  
Director of Public Health



Tricia Davies  
Assistant Director of Education

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

- your child's date of measurement, sex 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 in Reception and Year 6. Other data sets held by NHS Digital and Department of Health and Social Care, may also be linked as this would let us add information from health and education records, where lawful to do so, to understand how and why the weight of children is changing, how this affects children's health and education and how we can improve the care children receive. This includes 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 - includes 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, 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.
- 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 or services available in your area.
- your email address and telephone number are required as we may contact you by email or telephone 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.

All information is treated confidentially and held securely.

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 will be gathered and held securely by Sefton Council. We will store your child's information as part of their local child health record on the NHS's child health information database and share it with their GP.

All the information collected will be sent by us to NHS Digital, which 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. NHS Digital will share the data **in a non-identifiable way** with the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID), meaning they will not be able to identify your child. OHID focuses on improving the nation's health so that everyone can expect to live more of life in good health, and on levelling up health disparities to break the link between background and prospects for a healthy life.

Both NHS Digital and OHID use the information from the NCMP 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 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.

#### **Further information:**

Further information about the National Child Measurement Programme can be found at:  
[National Child Measurement Programme: operational guidance 2022 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-weight/national-child-measurement-programme)  
<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-weight/national-child-measurement-programme>

Information and fun ideas to help your kids stay healthy can be found at:  
<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/>

Information about how we Sefton Council and Merseycare NHS Foundation Trust School Nursing Team collect and use information can be found at:  
<https://www.sefton.gov.uk/media/1632/privacy-notice-for-public-health-services-v21.pdf>  
<https://www.merseycare.nhs.uk/about-us/privacy/privacy-statement>.

#### [National Child Measurement Programme - NHS Digital](#)

Information about how NHS Digital and Office for Health Improvement and Disparities collect and use information can be found at:  
<https://digital.nhs.uk/about-nhs-digital/our-work/keeping-patient-data-safe/how-we-look-after-your-health-and-care-information>  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care/about/personal-information-charter>

Information about the organisations NHS Digital has shared information from the National Child Measurement Programme can be found at  
<https://digital.nhs.uk/services/national-child-measurement-programme>

#### **How your child's data is collected and processed as part of the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP):**

Local authorities have a legal duty to collect the NCMP data. They do this by following guidance from the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, part of the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC). Local authorities are responsible for making decisions on how the data is collected and for making sure it is protected. Local NCMP service providers are contracted to carry this out, through the School Nursing Team working in schools. The team collecting the data enter it into the NCMP IT system, which is provided by NHS Digital. The data may also be entered into a local child health information system. Your local authority is responsible for sending the data to NHS Digital. NHS Digital and the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities are jointly responsible for the data held at a national level. Your local authority is responsible for the data held locally.

The diagram below displays what happens to your child’s data as part of the NCMP.

