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September 2017

SCHOOL NURSING TEAM

NATIONAL CHILDHOOD MEASUREMENT PROGRAMME

Dear Parent or Carer

Height and weight checks for children in Year 6

Every year in England, children in Year 6 have their height and weight measured as part of the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP). Your child's class will take part in this year's measurement programme; the date of the screening will be available from your child's school.

The NCMP provides information to help build an understanding of national and local trends in child weight. It is important to have a good understanding of how children are growing so that the best possible advice and support can be provided for them and their families.

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

The measurements will be undertaken by trained members of the School Nursing Team at school in a private space away from other pupils. Children who take part will be measured fully clothed except for their coats and shoes. Routine data such as your child's name, date of birth, gender, address, postcode and ethnicity will also be collected. This data is then entered into the NCMP database along with their height and weight.

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No individual measurements will be given to school staff or other children and all information will be treated confidentially. Your child's height and weight results will not be shared with them. 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. The results will not be entered onto your child's electronic health record unless you have been offered or requested support.

The programme's data is used within your local authority and NHS to help plan the provision of services and to offer advice to support healthy weight and lifestyles in the area. The information is also submitted for national analysis and publication in a way that means individual children cannot be identified. This data is then deleted at the end of that year's programme.

Opting your child out of the programme

If you are happy for your child to participate in this programme, you do not need to do anything. If you would prefer your child not to take part, please inform the School Nursing Team in writing or by email within 10 working days of receipt of this letter. Our contact details can be found at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely

School Nursing Team