NHS
Berkshire Healthcare
Children, Young People and Families services

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SCHOOL NURSING SCREENING SERVICE

Dear Parent/Carer,

Now that your child is of school age, the school nursing service will take over responsibility from the Health Visiting service.

Height & Weight Measurements & Hearing Screening for children in Reception Year

During their 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. As part of the measurement programme, your child's name, address, postcode, date of birth, sex, ethnicity and NHS number will be provided by your local authority. As soon as all their screenings are completed, you will receive a summary of the results via your child.

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 be weighed and measured. 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 their indoor clothing. For further information on what happens to your child's results and other useful information please refer to The National Child Measurement Programme - NHS

This short video explains how the programme is delivered in Berkshire NCMP process

All information and results will be treated confidentially. **Your child's height and weight will not be shared with your child, other children or school staff.** These results will be entered onto your child's electronic health record. The NHS Digital database (NCMP) will place your child's height and weight into one of the following ranges – 'underweight', 'healthy weight', 'overweight' and 'very overweight'. If your child is outside of the 'healthy weight' range you will receive a letter by post with further information.
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.

Information and fun ideas to help your kids stay healthy can be found at https://www.nhs.uk/change4life

Opting your child out of the NCMP/Hearing screening programme

If you are happy for your child to be weighed, measured and have their hearing tested you do not need to do anything, as **they will automatically** be included in our screening programmes**.**

However, **it is very important** to inform the school nursing team if any of the following apply to your child:

- You **do not** want your child to be weighed and measured
- Your child does not require their hearing to be tested as they have already been screened because:
  - Your child is already **under ENT or audiology**
  - They have had a **recent hearing test**
- If you **do not wish** for your child's hearing results to be shared with the class teacher (please note that sharing the results means that the class teacher can support your child in school if required).

- You **do not** want your child to take part in the NCMP and screening programmes – height, weight and hearing.

If any of the above apply to your child, please email WestBerkshireSchoolNurses@berkshire.nhs.uk **within seven days** of receipt of this letter, stating your **child's name, school and date of birth. Please note, all opt out emails need to be sent to the School Nursing Team and not your child's school.**

If your child is absent on the day we are in school, we will try to return to the school another day to complete the screening, however if your child is absent at the second visit we do not return again.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

West Berkshire School Nursing Team
WestBerkshireSchoolNurses@berkshire.nhs.uk