

Dear parent / Carer

Height and weight measurement, hearing and vision checks and Health questionnaire for children in Reception Year

Each year in England, school children in Reception Year have their height and weight measured at school as part of the National Child Measurement Programme. Your child will have the opportunity to have their hearing and vision checked (but not necessarily all at the same time). We have attached a brief health questionnaire for you to complete and return via your child's school.

The measurements are carried out by trained Public health nurse or trained health care staff. Children are measured fully clothed, except for their coats and shoes, in a private space away from other pupils.

The information collected by us includes your child's height and weight measurements together with their name, date of birth, gender, home address and postcode, NHS Number and ethnicity which is provided by your local authority. This information about your child is needed because their age, gender, ethnicity and the place they live are known to affect their height and weight. Their name, date of birth and NHS Number is needed to link your child's measurements to other information about your child. All this information is treated confidentially and held securely by us. It will not be shared with your child, child's school or with other children.

The NHS Digital database will place your child's height and weight into one of the following category – "underweight", "healthy weight", "overweight" and "very overweight". If your child is outside of the "healthy weight" category you will receive a letter by post with further information.

The information collected from all schools in the area will be gathered together and held securely by local authority. We will store your child's information on their local child health record on the child health information database.

All the information collected about your child will be sent by local authority to NHS Digital. NHS Digital is responsible for collecting health and care information to check how the NHS and social care services are doing, and to use this to improve the care provided to people across England.

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.

Both NHS Digital and Public Health England will use the information from the National Child Measurement Programme 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 by NHS Digital or Public Health England that identifies your child.

If your child was previously measured for the National Child Measurement Programme, NHS Digital may link your child's current and previous height and weight measurements. It may also link their measurements with other information it holds about your child such as their dental survey results or the reasons for any visits they may have made to hospital. Linking your child's information in this way helps better understand how and why the weight status of children is changing.

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.

Withdrawing your child from the National Child Measurement Programme

If you are happy for your child to be measured and have vision and hearing check, you do not need to do anything.

If you do not want your child's height and weight to be measured, hearing and vision checks please inform in writing / by e-mail within 7 days of receipt of this letter, using the contact details provided on the top of this letter.

Please note that if your child is already under Audiologist and /or Orthoptist, we will not check their vision and/or hearing as part of the screening programme.

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

Health Questionnaire

We have attached a brief health questionnaire for you to complete and return via your child's school. The questionnaire enables us to identify any support the service can provide to enable your child to stay healthy and happy at school.

Please complete the health questionnaire, ensuring that you have included your child's NHS number on the form. Once completed, please return it to your child's school office in the envelope marked "Confidential for the attention of Public health nursing – school nurse."

Vaccinations

As your child has now started school, it is an ideal opportunity for you to check that your child has all of their pre-school immunisations. If you are unsure, please contact your child's GP practice where your child's immunisation history is held. Further information on childhood vaccination schedule is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/>

General Child Health and Development

As part of a child's healthy development, we recommend that all children and young people have regular check-ups with an Optician and Dentist. These services are free of charge. Further information on the dentistry service is available at: www.nhs.uk/dentists



Further information

Further information about the National Child Measurement Programme can be found at <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/change4life>

Information about how NHS Digital and Public Health England 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> and <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england/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>

Yours faithfully,

Public Health Nursing 4 Slough

Dear Parent/ Carer

Please check your child is up to date with their routine vaccinations before they start school in September 2019.

Before your child begins school it is really important that they are up to date with their vaccinations to protect themselves from several contagious and potentially serious diseases.

At school, children will be mixing with large numbers of other children in a confined environment, which increases the risk of germs (virus and bacteria alike) spreading. Vaccination builds children's immunity to protect against these illnesses. For a number of diseases it also helps stop germs being spread, thus protecting the very vulnerable children who may not have, or may not be able to develop, immunity.

In some parts of Berkshire and the country more widely, and amongst some age groups, vaccination rates in children are lower than needed. This puts unvaccinated children at greater risk and increases the likelihood of an outbreak in the wider population. There have been recent outbreaks of measles in the UK along with large outbreaks across Europe. Measles is a highly infectious viral illness that can be very unpleasant and sometimes lead to serious complications.

The best protection against measles is to ensure your child has had two doses of the mumps, measles and rubella (MMR) vaccination. Therefore, before your child begins school please check with his/her GP that they have had their routine vaccinations scheduled for 3 years and 4 months of age. These vaccinations include: diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio (DTaP/ IPV) and the second dose of measles, mumps, rubella (MMR).

Please also check that they are up to date with all the other vaccinations that they would have been invited for as a baby and at 12 months old.

If you are not sure if your child has had all their routine vaccinations, check their personal health record (Red Book) or contact your GP surgery. For a checklist of the vaccines and the ages at which they should ideally be given visit www.nhs.uk/vaccinations

For more information on vaccinations simply head to www.publichealthslough.co.uk/services/service/protect-my-health

Yours faithfully,



Jo Jefferies
Consultant in Public Health
Public Health Services for Berkshire



Dr Rachel Mearkle
Consultant in Communicable Disease Control
Public Health England South East

SCHOOL HEALTH QUESTIONNAIRE – CONFIDENTIAL 2019

To be completed by parents/carers. **Please return to your child's school in the envelope marked "For the attention of the School Nursing Team". Please ensure you write your child's full name on the outside of the envelope. Alternatively you can send the completed form back to Publichealthnursing.4slough@nhs.net marked 'CONFIDENTIAL SNHQ' if you consent to information being shared electronically within the Slough school nursing service.**

CHILD DETAILS	PARENT/CARER DETAILS
Surname: _____	Surname: _____
First Name: _____	First Name: _____
Address: _____ _____	Address: _____ _____
Postcode: _____	Postcode: _____
Date of Birth: _____	Relationship to child: _____
NHS Number: (may be found in red Child Health Book)	Contact numbers: _____
Boy/Girl : (Delete as appropriate)	Email address: _____
Ethnicity: _____	Consent to send health promotion material via email: Yes/No
GP Surgery: _____	Date form completed: _____

PLEASE NOW COMPLETE THE HEALTH QUESTIONS FOR YOUR CHILD OVERLEAF

CONTACT US

The Public Health Nursing Team are here to support you and your child. If you would like further advice or information, please contact us:

☎ **01753 373464**
📧 publichealthnursing.4slough@nhs.net

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL – SCHOOL HEALTH QUESTIONNAIRE YEAR RECEPTION

Child's Name		Please tick		School
		Yes	No	Class
The school nurse may contact you if you tick 'Yes' to any of the questions below				Please use the box below to add any comments
1	Are you concerned about your child's behaviour?			
2	Are you concerned about your child's bedtime routine/quality of sleep?			
3	Do you have any concerns about your child's emotional wellbeing?			
4	Are you concerned about your child's hearing? Is your child currently under the care of the Audiology department ?			
4a	Is your child currently under the care of the Ear Nose & Throat Department?			
4b	Does your child use a hearing aid?			
5	Are you concerned about your child's vision?			
5a	Is your child currently under the Orthoptist			
5b	Is your child currently under the Optician?			
5c	Does your child wear glasses?			
6	Does your child have an Educational Healthcare Plan in place?			
7	Do you have any concerns with regards to your child's growth and development?			
8	Has your child been referred to a Dietician?			
9	Does your child have any genetic conditions?			
10	Does your child have problems with Night time wetting? Does your child have problems with Daytime wetting? Does your child have problems with Soiling?			
11	Does your child have any long-term medical conditions?			
12	Is your child under the care of a Hospital Consultant or any other Health Professional?			
13	Is your child taking any long-term medically prescribed medication?			
14	Has your child suffered a severe allergic reaction that requires medication in school?			
15	Is your child registered with a dentist?			
16	Has your child had a dentist check-up in the last 12 months?			
17	Is your child up to date with all of their immunisations?			

If unsure please contact your GP

