

**Adult Care, Housing and Public Health**

Riverside House  
Main Street  
Rotherham  
S60 1AE

February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

### **National Child Measurement Programme for children in Reception and Year 6**

Every year in England, school children in Reception and Year 6 have their height and weight measured 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 part of an ongoing national programme to collect trends. Your child's class is invited to take part in this year's programme.

The measurements are carried out by a trained health professional. Children are measured fully clothed, except for their coats and shoes, in a private space away from other students. The programme will be delivered, in line with the school and local authority's safety control measures and national guidance for schools and healthcare.

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

The wellbeing of children and families is very important to us. Measurements are conducted in a compassionate way, in private and away from other children. Individual results are not shared with your child or their school. Once the measurements have been taken, you will receive a text notification.

If you would like to know your child's measurement, or have any concerns about your child's growth, weight, body image or eating patterns, please contact our central helpline on 01709 423333.

### **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 would prefer that your child's height and weight are not measured, or your child has a medical condition that affects their height or weight that you would like to make us aware of please let us know by contacting the 0-19 Integrated Public Health Nursing Service Helpline on 01709 423333 **by 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025**. NB: Children will not be made to take part on the day if they do not want to.

Further detail, including how the data from the programme is used, is shown in an additional information section attached to this letter.

### **Useful resource**

The Rotherham Children's Public Health service has a new app. This free app will help to give you an insight into your local health visiting and school nursing service along with information and advice on children's health. To download the app, please scan the QR code below:



### **Additional information – linked to NCMP programme:**

*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.
- Your telephone number is required as we may contact you by telephone to discuss your child's results and offer you further support following your child's height and weight measurement.
- Other data sets held by NHS England and Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) may also be linked as this would let us add information from health and education records, where lawful to do so.
- 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.

All the data collected is also used for improving health, care and services through research and planning.

All this information is treated confidentially and held securely. No individual measurements will be given to school staff or other children.

### **How the data is used**

The information collected from all schools in the area will be gathered and held securely by The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust. 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 your GP.

All the information collected about your child will be sent by us to NHS England. NHS England is responsible for collecting data and information about health and care so that this can be used to monitor and improve the care provided to people across England.

The information collected about your child will also be shared anonymously by NHS England with the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) which is part of the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC). This means OHID will not be able to identify your child.

Both NHS England and OHID 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.

Anonymous information from the National Child Measurement Programme may also be shared by NHS England 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 England only ever shares information for research with the approval of an independent group of experts.

### Further information

You can find further information about the NCMP at [The National Child Measurement Programme NHS webpage](#).

Information about how we The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust collect, and use information can be found at

[http://www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk/Visitors\\_and\\_Patients/Rotherham\\_Health\\_Record\\_Privacy\\_Notice/](http://www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk/Visitors_and_Patients/Rotherham_Health_Record_Privacy_Notice/)

You can find information about how NHS England and DHSC collect and use information at:

- NHS England's [How we look after your health and care information](#) webpage
- the DHSC [Personal information charter](#) webpage

You can find information about the organisations NHS England has shared information from the NCMP at NHS England's [National Child Measurement Programme](#) webpage.

Yours faithfully,



Alex Hawley  
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Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council



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