



Hampshire County Council

Public Health
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Enquiries to **New Forest and Romsey Team**
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Date **1st August**

My reference

Your reference

E-mail

Dear Parent/Carer

Measuring the height and weight of children in reception year and year 6

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. Helping children to achieve a healthy weight is both a national and local priority.

Children in England in reception year and year 6 have their height and weight measured and your local child's class will take part in this year's measurement programme. The Public Health School Nursing Service delivers the programme across Hampshire and measurements will be supervised by trained public health staff. Children are fully dressed except for their coats and shoes and the measurements will be done in a private area away from other pupils.

Routine data, such as your child's name, sex, address, postcode, ethnicity and date of birth, will also be collected. This information will then be used within the local authority and NHS to help us plan the provision of advice and support for children and their families in your area. We may store the information on your child's health record. No child's height and weight measurement will be given to the school staff or any other children. This data will also be submitted for national analysis and publication, in a way that means individual children cannot be directly identified. All information and results will be treated confidentially.

The enclosed leaflet provides more information about the programme and tips for families on healthy lifestyles. After the measurement, your child's results will be posted to you along with general advice on healthy eating and being active. If you have concerns about your child's weight you are encouraged to contact your public health school nursing service for advice and support. More information about

Director of Public Health (interim)
Dr Sallie Bacon FFPH

Chief Executive
John Coughlan CBE

these services can be found at <http://www.southernhealth.nhs.uk/services/childrens-services/school-nursing>

Opting your child out of the programme.

If you do not want your child to take part, **please let us know by writing a letter to the Head Teacher** within 2 weeks of receiving this letter. Children will not be made to participate if they do not want to. If you are happy for your child to be weighed and measured, you do not need to do anything.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Sallie Bacon
Director of Public Health (Interim)
Hampshire County Council

Steve Crocker
Director of Childrens Services
Hampshire County Council