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Dear Parent/carers

## **Height, weight and hearing checks for children in Reception**

Welcome to the School Nursing Service

Every year in England, children in Reception and 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.

A routine hearing test will also be offered to reception children. Hearing tests are routinely carried out soon after birth which can help identify most babies with significant hearing loss. Testing hearing later in childhood can pick up any problems that have been missed or slowly getting worse. It is important to identify hearing problems as early as possible because they can affect a child's speech and language development, social skills and education.

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. Further information about the NCMP and healthy eating can be found on the Trust website – [www.stockport.nhs.uk/ourservices/schoolnursingstockport](http://www.stockport.nhs.uk/ourservices/schoolnursingstockport)

The measurement will be carried out by trained healthcare staff from Stockport Foundation Trust. The measurements will be done in small groups at school in a private room. 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, sex, address, postcode and ethnicity will also be collected.

**The data from all schools in the area will be gathered together and held securely by our local authority public health team. Please note that we may store your child's information on their health record and share it with their GP. No individual measurements will be given to school staff or other children, and all information will be treated confidentially.**



The programme's data are used within the local authority and NHS to help plan the provision of services and 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.

After the measurements, we will send you your child's results and information on healthy eating and being active.

### Opting your child out of the programme

**If you are happy for your child to be screened, you do not need to do anything. If you do not want your child to take part, or if you have any questions, please let us know using the contact details at the top of this letter. Children will not be made to take part if they do not want to.**

Further information about how Stockport NHS Foundation Trust manages your personal data can be found on the Trust website – [www.stockport.nhs.uk/dataprotection](http://www.stockport.nhs.uk/dataprotection)

Stockport School Nursing Service