

The Lancashire Healthy Young People and Families Service

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School: Bowerham Primary School

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Height and weight measurements for children in Reception and Year 6

Every year in England, school children in Reception and Year 6 have their height and weight checked, at school, as part of the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP). Height and weight measurements are collected as it is in the public interest to understand how many children are a healthy weight, above or below an expected weight. Your child's class will take part in this year's programme. The checks are carried out by trained Healthy Family Support Workers. Children are measured fully clothed, except for their coats and shoes, in a private space away from other pupils. This will be managed safely and in line with the school and local authority's safety control measures.

Individual results are not shared with your child or their school. The height and weight information is only shared with you in the parent/carer feedback letter. You will not receive a letter if your child falls within a healthy weight range. If you wish to receive your child's measurements regardless of the result, please let us know using the contact details at the top of this letter within 8 weeks of receiving this letter.

Below is a list of the information collected and what it is used for:

What we record	Why do we collect this?
Your Child's height, weight, date of measurement, sex and date of birth of your child	To calculate your child's weight category (also known as body mass index or BMI)
Your child's name, date of birth and NHS Number	To link your child's measurements in both Reception and Year 6
Your child's ethnicity	To help understand some of the reasons for the difference in child weight across England
Your child's address	To send you your child's feedback letter
Your telephone number	So, your 0-19 Universal School Health Team is able to contact you to discuss your child's results and offer support if needed.

How the data is used

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

The information collected from all schools in the area will be gathered together and held securely by Lancashire County Council. We will store your child's information as part of the local child health record.

We will send all the information collected about your child to NHS England. NHS England is responsible for collecting data and information about health and care so that it can be used to monitor and improve the care provided to people across England. The information collected about your child will also be shared by NHS England with the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) which is part of DHSC but in a de-personalised form only. This means OHID will not be able to identify your child. Both NHS England and OHID will use the information from the NCMP to better

understand numbers and trends in child weight and BMI. This helps to plan services to support healthy lifestyles in your area. No information will ever be published by NHS England or OHID that identifies your child. NHS England uses the data to produce [National Child Measurement Programme statistics reports](#) showing trends at national and local level.

De-personalised information from the NCMP 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. NHS England only ever shares information for research through formal assurance and approvals processes, seeking advice from experts as necessary.

The information collected is treated confidentially and held securely. Other data sets held by NHS England and Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) may also be linked to allow information from health and education records to be added, where lawful to do so. This helps understand how and why the weight of children is changing and how this affects children's health and education and how the care children receive can be improved. These other data sets may include your child's health data relating to:

- their birth
- hospital care (including time in hospital and out-patient appointments and diagnosis of medical conditions)
- mental health
- social care
- primary care (including all healthcare outside of hospital, such as GP and dental appointments)
- public health (including data relating to preventing ill health, such as immunisation records)
- records for when and the reason why people pass away
- medical conditions, such as cancer and diabetes
- health, lifestyle and wellbeing surveys that your child has participated in

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 do not want your child's height and weight to be measured, or your child has a medical condition that affects their height or weight, please contact us within 2 weeks of receiving this letter.

Further information links

For more detailed information regarding the NCMP and how your data is shared and used by NHS organisations, please type in <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-weight/national-child-measurement-programme> or scan the QR code below with your phone camera. This will take you to a website which details the information and the additional links required.



Another way to help maintain a balanced diet and physical activity for your family is the NHS Healthy Steps email programme. Sign up for the 8-week Healthy Steps emails and you will be sent lots of low-cost easy tips, fun games, healthy swaps and tasty recipes on a budget. You can sign up to NHS [Healthy Steps - Step this way](#) webpage or scan the QR code above

Information about how we collect and use information can be found at <https://www.hcrgcaregroup.com/legal-information/privacy-policy/>

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
The Lancashire Healthy Young People and Families Service

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