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Dear Parent/Carer,

[Height and weight checks for children in Year 1 and Year 7](#)

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). Your child's primary school took part in the programme last year.

Height and weight measurements are used to calculate weight status. We collect this information because it is in the public interest to understand how many children are overweight, healthy weight or underweight.

This year NCMP is taking part in a research project run by Newcastle University called MapMe. The MapMe project aims to support parental knowledge and awareness of child weight status and look at how child weight status changes over time. To do this, children now in Year 1 and Year 7 (those who were in Reception and Year 6 last school year) will be measured again.

We will share de-personalised data with the project team, including your child's date of birth, date of measurement, age, sex, height, weight, weight category, ethnicity, and publicly available information about the wider postcode that you live in, for research use.

If you would like more information on the MapMe project you can contact The 0-19 Public Health Nursing Team on 0300 123 5224.

[Maintaining the well-being of children](#)

As you may recall, the checks are carried out by trained health care workers in the school nursing team. Children are measured fully clothed, except for their coats and shoes, in a private space away from other pupils. As this measurement is part of the research project to look at weight changes over time individual results are not shared with you, your child, or their school.

Full study results will also be published on the MapMe study website at the end of the project in 2024.

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. Other data sets may also be linked such as your child's dental survey results or any visits to hospital they may have had. Linking your child's information in this way helps us to understand how and why the weight status of children is changing, and how this affects children's health.
- 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.

How the data is used

The information collected from all schools in the area will be gathered together and held securely by the Isle of Wight Council. 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 their GP.

Withdrawing your child from the Year 1 and Year 7 height and weight checks

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 checked, please let us know using the contact details provided below:

Telephone :0300 123 5224

E-mail: snhs.iowschoolnursing@nhs.net

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

Yours sincerely,



Simon Bryant
Director of Public Health
Isle of Wight Council

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/healthier-families/>

Information about how NHS Digital and Office for Health Improvement and Disparities collect and use information can be found at <https://digital.nhs.uk/about-nhs-digital/our-work/keeping-patientdata-safe/how-we-look-after-your-health-and-care-information> and <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-socialcare/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-childmeasurement-programme>