Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS
NHS Trust

Sandwell School Nursing Service
Clinical Group of Women and Child Health
Directorate of Acute and Community Paediatrics
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Measuring the Height and Weight of Children in Year 6

Your child's class will be taking part in this year's measurement programme which will be supervised by trained staff from Sandwell School Nursing Service. Children will only have to take off their shoes and outdoor clothing. Any cultural needs of the child will be respected and the measurement will take place in a private space away from other pupils.

The information collected by us includes your child's height and weight measurements together with their name, date of birth, gender, home address and postcode, NHS Number and ethnicity. This information about your child is needed because their age, gender, ethnicity and the place they live are known to affect their height and weight. Their name, date of birth and NHS Number is needed to link your child's measurements to other information about your child. All this information is treated confidentially and held securely by us. Your child's measurement will not be shared with your child's school or with other children.

Once completed, we may contact you by phone to discuss the results. Attached are some useful tips about healthy eating, being active and positive wellbeing.

If you would like to know your child's measurement results please contact the Sandwell School Nursing Team on 0121 612 2974.

The information overleaf provides you details on how your child's height and weight measurement will be treated.

If you are happy for your child to be weighed and measured, you do not need to do anything. **If you do not want your child to take part, please let the Sandwell School Nursing Team know by telephoning the contact details at the top of this letter. We will need your child's name, date of birth and school details. Children will not be made to take part if they do not want to.**

Many thanks for your co-operation.

Regards

Sandwell School Nursing

How is your child's height and weight information treated?

The information collected from all schools in the area will be gathered together and held securely by Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust and Sandwell Council. No individual measurements will be given to school staff or other children, and all information will be treated confidentially.

All the information collected about your child will be sent by us to NHS Digital. NHS Digital is responsible for collecting health and care information to check how the NHS and social care services are doing, and to use this to improve the care provided to people across England.

The information collected about your child will also be shared by NHS Digital with Public Health England but in a de-personalised form only. This means Public Health England will not be able to identify your child. Public Health England is responsible for working to protect and improve the nation's health.

Both NHS Digital and Public Health England 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. No information will ever be published by NHS Digital or Public Health England that identifies your child.

If your child was previously measured for the National Child Measurement Programme, NHS Digital may link your child's current and previous height and weight measurements. It may also link their measurements with other information it holds about your child such as their dental survey results or the reasons for any visits they may have made to hospital. Linking your child's information in this way helps better understand how and why the weight status of children is changing.

De-personalised information from the National Child Measurement Programme will help to improve health, care and services through research and planning. This information cannot be used to identify your child, and NHS Digital only ever shares information for research with the approval of an independent group of experts.