

Dear Parent/Carer,

Measuring the height and weight of children in Reception Year and Year 6

As you may be aware from the media, the increase in the number of overweight and obese children is a major public health concern.

In Devon, our Public Health team wants to have the best possible information on children's health to help us tackle this. So every year, as part of a national programme, all children in Reception Year and Year 6 have their height and weight checked and recorded.

Your child's class will be taking part in this year's measurement programme. Measurements will be taken by trained healthcare professionals in a private area away from other pupils. Children who take part will be asked to remove their shoes and will be weighed in normal indoor clothing.

Routine information, such as your child's name, sex, address, postcode, ethnicity and date of birth will also be collected and used to help us understand and plan services for children and families in Devon. All information and results will be treated confidentially and your child's height or weight will not be given to school staff or other children. The record of your child's height and weight will be made anonymous before being submitted for analysis at a national level, but may be stored locally on child health records. If you would like to know more about how your child's data is stored and used please see <https://new.devon.gov.uk/ncmp/privacy-notice>

If you would like to receive the results, then please complete the online form found at <https://new.devon.gov.uk/ncmp/>. If you would rather do this via post, please send the following details:- child's name, child's date of birth, child's school, full parent/carers name, child's home address, postcode, telephone number, email address, signature and date to the following address:- CONFIDENTIAL NCMP, Public Health Room 155, Devon County Council, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter, Devon, EX2 4QD. Please ensure you include all details to enable us to accurately match the request to your child's results.

Along with your child's height and weight, we will also include information on how you can help your child maintain a healthy weight through keeping active and eating a healthy diet. If you would like further advice, your child's School Nurse can provide additional support and ideas and can be contacted via your child's school or the Virgin Care website: <http://www.virginicare.co.uk/>

If you wish to feedback any comments, compliments or complaints on the service provided by the trained staff taking the measurements, please contact Devon Integrated Children's Services Customer Services customerservices@virginicare.co.uk (0300 303 9509).

What to do if you do not want your child weighed and measured

If you are happy for your child to be weighed and measured, you do not need to do anything. If you do **not** wish your child to take part, please complete the form overleaf and **return to your child's school**. Children will not be made to participate if they do not wish to.

Best wishes

Virginia Pearson

Dr Virginia Pearson
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Devon County Council

FORM 1:

Opting your child out of being weighed and measured

If you **do not** wish your child to participate, please complete this form and return it to your school.

Opt-out slip

I do not wish my child to be weighed and measured.

Child's full name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Year: ____ Class: ____

Child's school: _____

Parent's/carer's name: _____

Parent's/carer's signature: _____

Please return this slip to your child's school.