

School Health Screening Privacy Notice

Height and weight checks 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 used to calculate weight status. We collect this information to build a picture of how children are growing, to help plan better health and leisure services for families.

Parents/carers receive their child's measurement data, because this can be useful information about their child's growth and provides an opportunity to offer support to parents where required. Your child's class will take part in this year's programme.

The programme will be delivered in a safe way, in line with the school and local authority's safety control measures and national guidance for schools and healthcare.

The checks are carried out by registered school nurses or trained health and care providers. Measurements are conducted in a sensitive way. Children are measured fully clothed, except for their coats and shoes, in a private space away from other pupils.

Maintaining the wellbeing of children in the NCMP

The wellbeing of children and families is very important. Research is ongoing to ensure this continues to be done in a supportive way.

Individual results are not shared with your child or their school. The weight and height information is shared only with you, via a parent feedback letter or telephone call. It is your choice if you use the height and weight information provided in the parent or carer feedback letter to calculate your child's Body Mass Index.

It is your choice if you share the information with your child. If you are concerned about your child's growth, weight, body image or eating patterns, seek further support from a School Nurse or General Practitioner.

The information we collect and what it is used for is listed below:

Your child's data

- Your child's height, weight, date of measurement, sex and date of birth are used 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 are used to link your child's measurements in reception and year 6.
- 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
 - 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.

Why we need your contact details

We need your address to send you your child's feedback letter. This will include your child's measurements together with links to provide information about healthy eating, being active and related activities available locally.

We need your email address and phone number because we may:

- contact you by email or phone to discuss your child's feedback
- send you your child's feedback letter by email
- offer you further support following your child's height and weight measurement

How the data is used

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

All this information is treated confidentially and held securely. No individual measurements will be given to school staff or other children.

Local authorities have a legal duty to collect the NCMP data. The information collected from all schools in Cornwall will be collated and held securely by Cornwall Council. The data is used to generate personalised feedback letters to parents and carers based on the specific measurements of their child. Also, record level data is used for a wide variety of analyses around the trends in child weight and body mass index (BMI) to support our population

health surveillance responsibilities and planning of services to support healthy lifestyles. We will never publish information that could be used to directly identify an individual.

What is the legal basis for collecting the data

The statutory authority for processing NCMP personal data data is provided by The Local Authorities (Public Health Functions and Entry to Premises by Local Healthwatch Representatives) Regulations 2013 and The Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013.

The lawful basis for processing this data under the GDPR includes:

article 6 (1) (c): for compliance with a legal obligation to which the controller is subject

article 6 (1) (e): for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest

article 9 (2) (h): for the provision of health or social care or the management of health and social care systems and services

article 9 (2) (i): for reason of public interest in the area of public health

We will hold this information from the start of the programme (2006) and will hold the data 20 years from the last contact, or until the child reaches the age of 25, whichever is the longer period which is aligned to the retention schedule for child health records as required by the Records Management Code of Practice for Health and Social Care. The period of time that we will hold this data for will facilitate trend analysis, and to resolve parent/carer queries relating to previous years of the programme.

Who do we share the data with

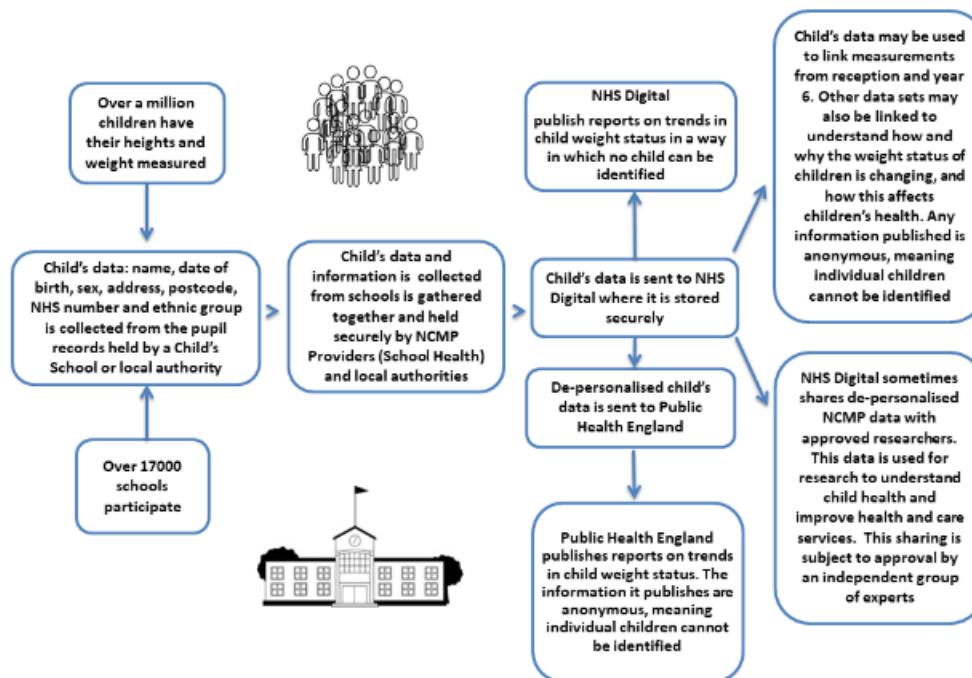
We will send all the information collected about your child to NHS England (Digital) via an approved secure system. NHS England is responsible for collecting data and information about health and care so that it can be used to monitor and improve the care provided to people across England.

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 chart below displays what happens to your child's data as part of the NCMP.



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 let us know using the opt out form which can be found here:

- Reception year: <https://www.healthycornwall.org.uk/make-a-change/2024-child-health-programme-reception-year/>
- Year 6: <https://www.healthycornwall.org.uk/make-a-change/2024-child-health-programme-year-6/>

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

Further information

You can find further information about the NCMP at [The National Child Measurement Programme](#) NHS webpage.

You can find information and fun ideas to help your kids stay healthy at the NHS Better Health: healthier families webpage [Easy ways to eat well and move more](#).

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:



How your child's data is collected and processed as part of the NCMP

Local authorities have a legal duty to collect the NCMP data. They do this by following guidance from the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities part of the Department of Health and Social Care. Local authorities are responsible for making decisions on how the data is collected and for making sure it is protected. Local NCMP service providers are contracted to carry this out; this might be through the school nursing team working in schools or a local healthcare provider. The team collecting the data enter it into the NCMP IT system, which is provided by NHS Digital. Your local authority is responsible for sending the data to NHS Digital. NHS Digital and the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities are jointly responsible for the data held at a national level. Your local authority is responsible for the data held locally.

[If you have a general query related to NCMP and your child's information, please contact ncmp@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:ncmp@cornwall.gov.uk)

You can contact the Council's Data Protection Team on **01872 326424** or email them at dataprotection@cornwall.gov.uk if you have any questions.

You can find information about how NHS England and DHSC collect and use information at:

- NHS England's [How we look after your health and care information](#) webpage
- the DHSC [Personal information charter](#) webpage

You can find information about the organisations NHS England has shared information from the NCMP at NHS England's [National Child Measurement Programme](#) webpage.

Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust (RCHT)

Vision and hearing screening

The RCHT will be processing your child's data in order to provide visual and /or hearing services and manage opt outs received through Cornwall Council. Your child's information will only be accessed by those staff that are involved in the provision of these services and will not be shared with others unless there is a legal reason to do so.

If you wish to know more about your rights with regard to Data Protection, please visit our website on <https://www.royalcornwall.nhs.uk/our-care-promise/>

If you wish to discuss this, please contact the Trust Data Protection Officer:
email: rcht-tr.infogov@nhs.net or tel: 01872 255014.