



**Hertfordshire County Council
Public Health
County Hall
CHO231
Pegs Lane
Hertford SG13 8DE**

Email: publichealth@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Date: 27 October 2014

Dear Parent/Carer

Measuring the height and weight of children in Year 6

As part of the National Child Measurement Programme, children are weighed and measured at school. We are writing to you because your child's class will take part in this year's programme.

It's really important to have a good understanding of how children are growing, so that we can provide the best possible advice and support. Helping children to achieve a healthy weight is important for their chances in the rest of life. This important programme helps us do this. It is now in its ninth year in Hertfordshire.

The measurement will be supervised by trained healthcare professionals from your NHS Community Trust and will be carried out in a private area away from other pupils. Children who take part will be asked to remove their shoes and coats and will be weighed in normal indoor clothing. Any cultural needs of the child will be respected. Children will not be made to take part if they do not want it.

Information will be treated confidentially. We collect your child's name, gender, address, postcode, ethnicity and date of birth. This information will be used within the local authority and NHS to help us understand and plan support for weight-related problems for children in your area. No height or weight measurements of any child will be given to school staff or other children.

The measurements are analysed nationally in a way that means individual children cannot be directly identified. They are stored locally on NHS child health records for the purposes of providing results and follow-up advice to parents. If there is concern about your child's weight or health, you will receive a letter explaining the result and giving you information that might support you. Your child's results may also be shared with your GP who may also provide support to your family if required.

More information about the National Child Measurement Programme can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-child-measurement-programme-factsheet-for-parents>

Opting your child out of the programme

If you are happy for your child to be weighed and measured, you do not need to do anything. However, you can find an opt-out slip attached to this letter. If you do not wish your child to take part, please complete, sign and return it to your school office within two weeks.

Yours sincerely



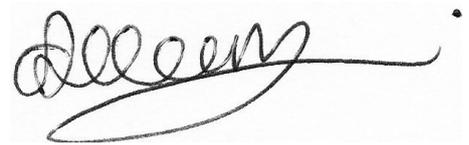
Jim McManus
Director of Public Health

**Hertfordshire County
Council**



Jenny Coles
Director of Children's
Services

**Hertfordshire County
Council**



Dr Caroline Allum
Medical Director

**Hertfordshire Community NHS
Trust**

Opting your child out of being weighed and measured

Please return this form to your school office only if you **do not wish your child to participate**

Form 1: Opt-out slip

I do not wish my child to be weighed and measured for the 2014/15 National Child Measurement Programme

Child's name

Year

Class

Child's school

Parent's/Carer's name

Parent's/Carer's signature Date

PLEASE RETURN THIS TO YOUR SCHOOL OFFICE