Kent Community Health
NHS Foundation Trust

Private and confidential

Kent School Health
Maidstone Studios
Vinters Business Park
New Cut Road
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 5NZ
Phone: 0800 011 3474
Email: kentchft.schoolhealthscreening@nhs.net
Web: https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk

Wednesday 13th October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

This letter is to invite you to participate in the annual screening programmes that the School Health Team at Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust offer.

Vision Screening

The School Health Team at Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust provides vision screening to all children in reception class to assess whether there is an issue which requires further investigation. The screening will be carried out from January 2022 until the end of the summer term. If your child is receiving treatment for a vision problem, or wears glasses, they will not need to have their vision screened.

Therefore, please contact us to opt out of the vision programme if you do not wish your child to receive a screen, or your child is already under professional care for their vision

The results of the screening will be sent home within four weeks of the screening being completed. Please ensure that your child's school has an up to date address and contact number for you to ensure the results letter is sent to the correct address or that we can contact you by phone if required. If there are concerns with your child's vision we will refer them to the Orthoptist for a follow up appointment.

If you are happy for your child to have their vision checked you do not need to contact us.

If your child is absent on the day of screening we will attempt to see them again in school, if this is not possible we will invite you to attend a community clinic.

NCMP – Height and Weight measurement

Each year in England, school children in Reception 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 because it builds a picture of how

children are growing to help plan better health and leisure services for families. We are also able to offer further support and advice about your child's weight. The NCMP will be carried out from January 2022 until the end of the summer term

You can view a short video about the benefits of the NCMP here: https://youtu.be/i8_mubVI6hk

The checks are carried out by trained health care professionals. Children are measured fully clothed, except for their coats and shoes, in a private space away from other pupils.

Please be aware that your child will not be made to take part if they do not want to or are unable to do so. We will contact you to let you know if this happens.

Therefore, please contact us to opt out of NCMP if you do not want your child to take part.

How to opt out

For both Vison and NCMP programmes please inform us by Friday 12th November 2021, using either the email address or telephone number at the top of this letter. You will need to provide us with your child's name, address, date of birth, school name and address so that we do not screen your child.

If you have any questions relating to this letter or wish to discuss any health concerns which could impact on your child's education, please contact the School Health Team using the details at the top of this letter.

If you require more information regarding the Kent Community Health NHS Trust School Health services please visit www.kentcht.nhs.uk/service/school-health

Information about how Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust collect and use information can be found at www.kentcht.nhs.uk/legal/

Yours faithfully

School Health Screening Team

Do you have feedback about our health services?

Phone: 0300 123 1807
8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday
Text: 07899 903499
Email: kentchft.PALS@nhs.net
Web: www.kentcht.nhs.uk/PALS

If you need to speak to someone about your appointment, please contact the service directly using the details at the top of page one.

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) Kent Community Health NHS
Foundation Trust Unit J, Concept Court
Shearway Business Park
Folkestone Kent CT19 4RG