

October 2021

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Dear Parent/Carer,

The Hertfordshire Public Health Nursing Service uses an online health assessment questionnaire, called the Lancaster Model, to identify health needs of children, in line with national guidelines (The Healthy Child Programme). The assessment questionnaire is designed for children to complete in Year 6 and enables us to capture and address the health needs of your child as they grow. Parents also complete an online assessment for their child in reception. There is further information about the Lancaster Model here: <https://www.thelancastermodel.co.uk/>

All children in year 6 will be given the opportunity to complete this online questionnaire. The questionnaire will be completed by your child in school and asks your child about things that can impact on their health such as lifestyle and emotional wellbeing. Members of the school nursing team will be present when the children complete the questionnaire so that we can support any child that may need assistance, or to offer support afterwards if it raises any questions for your child.

Once the questionnaires have been completed, they will be reviewed, online, by the members of the School Nursing Team. Your child might be invited to speak to a school nurse in school, if some of their answers to the questions indicate they may want some support. Children can also ask to speak to the school nursing team after finishing the questionnaire if they would like to.

If your child might benefit from some additional support, such as one to one session with someone from the school nursing team, then we will contact you, as their parent or carer, to discuss this and to ask for your agreement to do this work.

All personal information collected from this questionnaire will be treated as confidential and held securely to meet with data protection requirements. Anonymous information, for example information about lifestyle choices and behaviour, may be shared with other agencies to improve services, including your child's school so they can plan appropriate support as identified by that cohort of children.

Although anonymous information may be shared, (for example information about lifestyle choices and behaviour) with other agencies to improve services, all personal information collected from this questionnaire will be treated as confidential and held securely to meet with data protection requirements. Information regarding how this data is stored by Hertfordshire Community NHS trust can be found here:

<https://www.hct.nhs.uk/about-us/data-protection-and-your-information/>

If you are happy for your child to taken part in this then you do not need to do anything further.

If you do not want your child to participate in this questionnaire then please contact the school nurse team, contact details below, by **21/10/21**.

If we do not hear from you then we will assume you are happy for your child to take part.

To explain this questionnaire further we have made a short film which we hope will clarify the process. This can be found here: <https://youtu.be/nwfS5kc8uI4> We are also providing some webinars, (online question and answer sessions) to allow you the opportunity to ask any questions you may have about this process. The details of these are:

Friday 8th October @ 2pm – 3pm

Wednesday 13th October @ 11am – 12pm If you would like to join one of these sessions, please book by clicking on the link below:

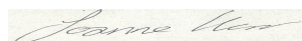
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/181667651837>

The short YouTube film below describes the important support school nurses offer children and their families in Hertfordshire:

<https://youtu.be/7RoTkp3vkB0>

We have also included some links of websites you may find useful when talking to your child about subjects some parents may find difficult.

Yours sincerely



Joanne Kerr

School Nurse Team Leader

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Useful websites:

www.healthforkids.co.uk (age 5-11Yrs)

General health information including puberty, healthy eating, and mindfulness. There is lots of information for both parents and children.

There is another site for older children but please check this before you share with your child as there is information about subjects you may feel your child is not yet ready for including sex and relationships:

www.healthforteens.co.uk (age 11-19Yrs)

Emotional and mental health information:

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/self-help/guides-tools-and-activities/five-steps-to-mental-wellbeing/>

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk>