

Date: 2024/2025 School Year

Dear Parent/ Carer

Re School Health Screening and Health & Wellbeing Questionnaire

The School Health Team would like to inform you of the Healthy Child Programme Universal Core Service commissioned offer. Children in reception are offered screening to test their distance vision, hearing, height and weight. Your child's school will be notified of the date, and you will be notified of your child's results, following their screening.

Vision Screening

We offer vision screening to children aged 4 to 5 to identify those with reduced vision. The aim is to detect problems early so your child can get effective treatment. Children identified by screening will be referred to the Alder Hey eye clinic team and an appointment will be sent to you either at Alder Hey hospital or at a local community clinic. The cause of the reduced vision will be identified and treatment recommended which may include the use of glasses.

Hearing Screening

We offer hearing screening to children aged 4 to 5 to identify those with reduced hearing. The aim is to detect problems early so your child can get effective treatment. Children identified by screening will have a further assessment in school by the Alder Hey audiology team who will contact you directly following this. If your child is absent on the day of screening they will also be assessed by the audiology team at a later date and they will contact you directly with the results of the screening.

Height & Weight

We offer a height and weight screening to children aged 4 to 5 for a baseline measurement to identify any discrepancies in your child's growth.

NB If your child is included in the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) you may receive a letter regarding your child's Body Mass Index (BMI). The NCMP is a national programme offered to every child in the UK in Reception Year and Year 6.

Health & Wellbeing Questionnaire

We would like to provide support for any other health concerns that you may have about your child. Therefore, we would appreciate you completing a questionnaire about your child's health & wellbeing, electronically via the Mersey Care Website

The questionnaire will be available between set dates and will be accessed via a web link taking you directly to Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust web site, once the questionnaire has been completed it will close down and the information will be sent securely to the School Health Team and placed on your child's record.

Below is the link to the questionnaire for you to complete. The portal will be open from Monday to Friday between 23/02/25 and 09/03/25 Please note- the portal will only be open to complete during these dates. On the front page you will be given an option to select your child's school from a drop down box. To progress you should click on the link - <https://forms.merseycare.nhs.uk/school-health-forms/reception-questionnaire/>

Should you wish to contact your School Health Team at any time, please follow this link and select 'location of School Health Team', this will show <https://www.merseycare.nhs.uk/our-services/liverpool/school-health-service> you the team that covers the postcode where you live. This will get you to the School Health Teams office. Our service hours are 08.30 – 17.00.