

Date

Dear Parent/Carer

**Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust 5-19 Healthy Child Programme (School Health Service)**

A member of the 5-19 Growing Healthy Team visits schools at regular intervals to promote children's health.

A programme of health is offered to your child, at various stages throughout their time in school .

This includes:

- Routine screening for vision **Reception Year**
- Height and weight surveillance as part of the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) **Reception Year and Year 6**
- Individual health assessments (if required)
- Health promotion/health education sessions

You can contact your Growing Healthy Team if you have any concerns regarding your child's growth, to discuss results of screening and surveillance, or discuss any individual concerns privately, should you feel this is necessary. Please note we do not inform parents of the outcome of routine vision checks unless there is a reason for concern. We will share these results with your child's class teacher to ensure that they are given all necessary support within the classroom.

In respect of growth surveillance, you will receive a letter with your child's measurements following the session. The screening process and all information received is handled with extreme sensitivity and confidentiality.

Following your child's vision screening, if your child requires a further vision assessment they will be referred to the Children's Community Optometry Service for more detailed testing. The service is completely free and is delivered by local opticians. Your child will be referred to a local optician via Primary Eyecare Services who operate the Children's Community Optometry Service. Primary Eyecare Services will contact you via letter with a choice of local opticians who can provide the follow on service. Please look out for this letter arriving and make the choice of local optician as soon as you can.

Depending on the vision screening result, some children require a referral to the hospital orthoptist. If we do refer to the hospital clinic we will send you a letter to inform you, and your child will receive an appointment directly from the hospital service.

Where we need to make a referral for further vision assessment, we will share this information with your child's teacher to ensure they are given all the necessary support within the classroom.

**If you do not wish your child to take part in any areas of the screening / surveillance, please contact the Child Health Department in writing at:**

**Child Health Department, Room S331, Second Floor, Bishop Auckland Hospital, Cockton Hill Road, Bishop Auckland. Co. Durham DL14 6AD or via secure email**  
[cd-da-tr.southdurhamchildhealth@nhs.net](mailto:cd-da-tr.southdurhamchildhealth@nhs.net)

**If we do not hear from you by 26<sup>th</sup> September we will assume that you have no objection to your child receiving this service.**

Yours sincerely



Caren Shepherd  
Service Manager  
**5-19 Growing Healthy Team**  
Tel: 0300 030 013

A NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE FOUNDATION TRUST   Chairman – Angela Schofield   Chief Executive – Jonathan Coulter