



**Mersey Care**  
NHS Foundation Trust

Our Ref: Reception screening  
letter

Sefton School Health  
Switch House  
Northern Perimeter Road  
Bootle  
Liverpool  
L30 7PT  
Tel: 0151 247 6354

Date 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023

[mcn-tr.seftonschoolhealth@nhs.net](mailto:mcn-tr.seftonschoolhealth@nhs.net)

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Re School Health Screening**

As your child has started school their health and well-being will now be supported by the Sefton School Health Team in partnership with you and your child's school. During their time in reception, our team will visit school to screen your child's distance vision, hearing, height and weight.

**If we do not hear from you within the next 2 weeks your child will be included in the screening programme and you will be notified of the results.**

**If you do not wish your child to be included in any aspect of the screening programme (all or part of it), please inform us **by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December** on 0151 247 6354 or [mcn-tr.seftonschoolhealth@nhs.net](mailto:mcn-tr.seftonschoolhealth@nhs.net)**

**Any appointment letters sent to you as a result of reception screening will be sent to the address held by the school office. Therefore please ensure all contact information is up to date.**

### **Vision Screening**

We offer vision screening at age four to five to identify those children with reduced vision. The aim is to detect problems early so your child can get effective treatment. Children identified as having reduced vision (from our screening) will automatically be referred to either the Alder Hey or Southport and Ormskirk eye clinic (dependant on where you live) and an appointment will be sent to you to attend the hospital or a local community clinic. The cause of any reduced vision will be identified and treatment recommended, which may include the use of glasses.

**If your child is already under the care of Ophthalmology or already wears glasses, it is important that you let us know so we can adapt the screening to achieve the best possible outcome for your child.**

## **Hearing Screening**

We offer hearing screening at age four to five to identify those children with reduced hearing. The aim is to detect problems early so your child can get effective treatment.

Children having reduced hearing (from our screening) will have a further assessment in school by a specialist Audiology Team who will contact you directly with the results.

It is not advised children with a programmable shunt undertake reception hearing screening please let us know if this applies to your child.

### **If your child is already under the care of Audiology, please let us know**

You will be notified of your child's screening results.

If your child has a special education need(s) and or disability, please contact your school nurse to discuss the suitability for your child and how we can best support them in relation to their disability or diagnosis.

## **Growth Monitoring**

We offer height and weight measurement in Reception. Weighing and measuring helps us to check your child is growing and developing as expected. Your child's measurements will be plotted by us onto a growth centile chart and recorded in their child health record, which is held securely by us. If we believe your child is not growing as expected, we will contact you directly to discuss next steps.

If you have any questions about our screening programme or would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact the School Health Team on the telephone number above.

## **Data Protection**

The Trust's Data Protection Officer (DPO) is the Head of Information Governance, who is supported in this role by the Information Governance Team. The DPO can be contacted by emailing [DPO@merseycare.nhs.uk](mailto:DPO@merseycare.nhs.uk). If you have any concerns or queries about your child's information please contact either the team providing the care or the DPO. Further information on Data Protection is available on the Trust's website at [www.merseycare.nhs.uk/privacy](http://www.merseycare.nhs.uk/privacy).

Yours sincerely

*M Sumner*

Mrs Maria Sumner  
Clinical Services Manager