



Starting Well Partnership
EVERY CONTACT SHAPES A LIFE



Herefordshire and Worcestershire
Health and Care
NHS Trust

Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust

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Worcester
WR5 1JR
01905 520032



Dear Parent/Carer,

HEALTH SCREENING IN SCHOOLS FOR RECEPTION AGE CHILDREN

HEARING SCREENING

The 5-19 Public Health Nursing Service offers a routine hearing test to every child in Reception. The main reason for screening children's hearing at this age is to ensure that all children have satisfactory hearing for learning in school. Untreated hearing problems can cause difficulties with speech, learning and behaviour.

Health Care Support Workers working within the Public Health Nursing Team will soon be attending your child's school to test your child's hearing. For this to be recorded accurately on your child's records, we will ask school to provide your child's full name, address, date of birth and gender*.

Worcestershire Public Health Nursing Service is now using a digital system known as School Screener to perform the hearing tests and issue the results. Please register for a School Screener Parent Portal Account using the link below:

<http://qlink.uk/WOR255/144457>

The School Screener Parent Portal can only be accessed by the web browsers, Google Chrome or Edge.

Once you have registered your child, an account will be created. If your child is already under the care of a specialist or you do not wish your child to be tested, please 'opt-out' via the Parent Portal **within 2 weeks of receiving this letter**. If you do not have internet access to register an account on the Parent Portal, please let us know.

Your child will be given clear instructions which will involve wearing a pair of child-sized headphones. An audiometer is plugged into a laptop to manage the sounds and an on-screen game is played. Your child will then identify the sounds they hear. If your child does not pass the hearing test, they will be offered a second test approx.12 weeks later and referred onto Acute Audiology at the hospital for further assessment if necessary.

On completion of the hearing test, you will be sent an email to inform you the results are available on the Parent Portal. The school may also be informed of the results of your child's hearing test.

Chairman: Mark Yates
Chief Executive: Sarah Dugan

Working Together for Outstanding Care

HEALTH SCREENING

Health needs are assessed as children progress through their school life. Screening takes place in Reception, Year 6 and Year 9 as part of the Healthy Child Programme. The focus is on early intervention and prevention so that children can reach their full potential. The screening is carried out via an online questionnaire which is delivered through School Screener. In due course we will send a further letter which will contain a 'unique link' to access the questionnaire.

Once completed, the questionnaires are reviewed and triaged by the Public Health Nursing team. Depending on how you answer the questions, a member of the team may contact you and/or school to discuss further. You may also be sent relevant information and/or signposted to further support.

If you require any further information, please contact us via our 'One Simple Number, 01905 520032'. Alternatively, you can contact us via our NEW Parentline on 07312 263547, which is a text service available Mon-Fri 9am-5pm excluding bank holidays.

For more information on the services provided by the Starting Well Partnership please visit <https://www.startingwellworcs.nhs.uk/>

Yours sincerely,

Worcestershire 5-19 Public Health Nursing Team

*Under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018, we have a legal duty to protect any information we collect from you and your child's school. Please be assured that all personal confidential information will be kept secure and confidential at all times and will only be used by staff who have a lawful reason to do so. For details on how we use your information please visit our website: www.hacw.nhs.uk/data-protection

Do you have a communication or information support need? Please contact the team who sent this letter so that those needs can be recorded and responded to. For more information, visit www.startingwellworcs.nhs.uk