

**School Year 2025/26**

**Date of Health Questionnaire in School:**

Dear Parent/ Carer,

The Lancashire Health Visiting & School Nursing Service is developing better ways to understand and support the direct care and health and wellbeing of children and young people within schools. To help us achieve this, we will be continuing to undertake the School Health Needs Assessment Programme. This allows us to assess the health and social care needs of children in Reception, Year 6, and Year 9.

A health needs assessment questionnaire has been designed in collaboration with the Public Health Team at Lancashire County Council for children who wish to participate in the school health needs assessment programme. The questionnaire is completed online (via the Lancashire County Council secure portal) in class, by your child, regarding their health and well-being. This can be viewed on Lancashire Health Visiting & School Nursing's website via the following link:

<https://lancschildandfamily.co.uk/services/school-nursing/>

The school health needs assessment programme provides vital information to help us improve the direct care and support for individual children and for the whole age group. The School Nursing Team review the completed questionnaires to identify children or families who would benefit from some support. An anonymised School report is shared with the schools so they can understand their school's health needs. The anonymised information from the questionnaires also allows the health team to see any common issues that might help us improve the services we provide as your child transitions into High School. Questionnaires are treated in the same way as all children's health information and are stored confidentially in the child's health records.

When reviewing the questionnaires of year 6 pupils, there are common themes we regularly follow children up on, such as friendships, emotional health, puberty/body changes and worries about transition to high school.

Once your child's questionnaire has been reviewed, if it is felt appropriate, we will offer them an opportunity to discuss their answers with a member of the School Nursing Team. Your child can decline on the day if they so wish, although most children like the opportunity to engage face to face with a member of our team. This also provides a time to offer general healthy lifestyle advice and information. Please be assured that we will contact you if there is anything that requires further discussion.

**If you do not wish your child to take part in the questionnaire and follow-up discussion, or if you would like to speak with your school nursing team, please contact us using the number provided above at least 3 days before the questionnaire is due to be completed.**



Marianne Shaw: Service Integration Manager

## Useful Information for families

- **If your child is not registered with a dentist**

Telephone the Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust Dental helpline on: **0300 123 4010**

- **If your child or family are not registered with a GP/Doctor's surgery**

You can register with a local GP by visiting a GP surgery close to where you live or by going to: [www.nhs.uk/Service-Search/GP/LocationSearch/4](http://www.nhs.uk/Service-Search/GP/LocationSearch/4)

You can also find more information on the NHS Choices website by going to:

[www.nhs.uk/Pages/HomePage.aspx](http://www.nhs.uk/Pages/HomePage.aspx)

- **NHS Better Health - Healthier families**

Visit: [www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/](http://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/)

- **Free NHS funded sight tests are available for children**

- **Please contact your GP surgery**

If your child has not had all their immunisations, or if you are not sure.

- **Further information and resources can be found at:**

<https://lancschildandfamily.co.uk/>