# **Childhood obesity and the MEND Programme**

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### **Childhood obesity in England**

- In 2007, 17% of boys and 16% of girls aged 2 to 15 were classed as obese
- If current trends continue, a quarter of all children will be obese by 2050
- By 2020, the Government aims to reduce the proportion of overweight/obese children to 2000 levels

### **Effects of childhood obesity**

- Physical impact: type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, joint problems
- Psychological impact: low self-esteem, depression, social isolation, bullying
- Obese children are more likely to become obese adults

### **The MEND Programme**

- Community-based healthy lifestyle programme targeted at children aged 7-13 years
- Two hours, twice a week, over 10 weeks after school





Filter, Healthier, Happier Families

### **The MEND Programme**



- · Children and their parents take part
- Advice on how to eat a balanced diet, be more physically active, and stay motivated
- · Interactive workshops and exercise classes







### **The MEND Programme**



Nutrition Session 5 - "Ready, Steady, Eat...the MEND way"





## Research questions



### Who comes to MEND?

- · Age, gender and family background details
- Are the relevant 'target' groups (children from minority ethnic communities and lowincome families) being reached?









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# Does MEND work? The stand of t