1 TITLE: Weight status associations with physical activity intensity and physical self-perceptions in 10-

2 11 year old children

3

4

ABSTRACT

5	The study examined associations between children's weight status, physical activity intensity, and
6	physical self-perceptions. Data were obtained from 409 children (224 girls) aged 10-11 years
7	categorized as normal-weight or overweight/obese. Physical activity was assessed using
8	accelerometry, and children completed the Physical Self-Perception Profile. After controlling for the
9	effects of age, maturation, and socio-economic status vigorous physical activity was significantly
10	associated with normal-weight status among boys (OR = 1.13, $p = 0.01$) and girls (OR = 1.13, $p =$
11	0.03). Normal-weight status was significantly associated with perceived Physical Condition (Boys:
12	OR = 5.05, $p = .008$; Girls: $OR = 2.50$, $p = 0.08$), and Body Attractiveness (Boys: $OR = 4.44$, $p =$
13	0.007; Girls: OR = 2.56, $p = 0.02$). Weight status of 10-11 year old children was significantly
14	associated with time spent in vigorous physical activity and self-perceptions of Body Attractiveness
15	and Physical Condition.

16

17

INTRODUCTION

18 Overweight and obesity are global public health issues implicated in the onset and 19 development of a number of degenerative conditions through the life course (5, 7). The causes of 20 overweight and obesity are complex but the basic physiological premise is that positive energy 21 balance over time leads to weight gain as more energy is taken in than expended (48). On this basis, increased energy expenditure through physical activity should help maintain energy balance and 22 23 therefore a stable body weight. For these reasons physical activity is implicated in the cause and 24 prevention of pediatric overweight and obesity (10). Although it is suggested that obesity prevalence 25 among young people may have 'leveled off' in the last decade (30), the existing high incidence of 26 obesity has coincided with low levels of habitual physical activity in most developed countries (37, 27 39). Despite the intuitive logic that declining physical activity levels influence the increased 28 prevalence of overweight and obesity, a recent review of children's objectively assessed physical 29 activity and changes in adiposity reported weak and inconsistent associations between the variables of interest (48). One factor implicated in the equivocal conclusions reached was a lack of studies 30 31 assessing specific intensities of physical activity (48). In particular, the influences of moderate 32 (MPA), and vigorous intensity physical activity (VPA) on adiposity may differ, with more intense 33 activity often reported to be of greater benefit (24). Self-perceptions contribute to a person's self-34 esteem, which reflects their evaluation of the good or worth inherent in their self-description (45). 35 With regard to health-related changes to lifestyle, self-esteem and motivation are interlinked and can 36 be viewed as 'common concepts' (46). Competence motivation theory (16) suggests that people will be motivated to engage in activities where they feel competent, and on this basis self-perceptions are 37 38 important predictors of physical activity and other volitional behaviors (44). Physical self-perceptions 39 such as perceived physical competence are recognized as positive correlates of youth physical activity 40 (42), and specific components of the physical self are thought to influence motivated behavior (11). 41 Studies have shown significant associations between physical self-perceptions and physical activity in youth, with boys typically reporting stronger self-perceptions than girls (9). Furthermore, associations 42 exist between overweight/obesity and physical activity (1), and evidence suggests that overweight 43

44	and obese children may have lower self-perceptions than normal-weight counterparts (23). Moreover,							
45	excess adiposity impacts on selected domains of self-perception, which often relate to physical							
46	activity participation and physical appearance (12). The relationships between specific components of							
47	children's physical self-perceptions, physical activity, and weight status are under researched but							
48	improved understanding of these factors may help inform future childhood obesity interventions.							
49	Thus, the study purpose was to examine associations between weight status, physical activity							
50	intensities, and physical self-perceptions among English primary school children.							
51	METHODS							
52	Participants							
53	Eight schools situated in urban and suburban areas of a large north-west England town were							
54	recruited to the study during the autumn school terms of 2008 and 2009. In these schools all children							
55	in Year 6 (aged 10-11 years; N = 602; 307 in 2008, 295 in 2009) received project and consent							
56	information and were invited into the study. Five hundred children consented to participate (230 in							
57	2008 (116 girls), 270 in 2009 (139 girls)) resulting in an 83.1% participation rate. The ethnic origin of							
58	all the children was white British, which roughly reflects the ethnic demographic of the town's							
59	school-age population which is 96% white British (47). During 2008 and 2009 data were collected in							
60	one school per week between October and December. Ethical approval was obtained from the							
61	University Ethics Committee.							
62	Instruments and procedures							
63	Socio-economic status							
64	Socio-economic status was calculated using the 2007 Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)							
65	(6). IMD scores were derived from the children's home postcodes using the National Statistics							
66	Postcode Directory database (2).							
67	Anthropometry							
68	Stature and sitting height were measured to the nearest 0.1 cm using a portable stadiometer							
69	(Leicester Height Measure, Seca, Birmingham, UK). Leg length was calculated by subtracting sitting							
70	height from stature. Body mass was measured to the nearest 0.1 kg using calibrated scales (Seca,							

72 clothing and barefooted. The International Obesity Task Force age and sex-specific BMI cut-points

73 were used to classify children as either normal-weight, overweight, or obese (3). Overweight and

obese children's data were then collapsed to create an overweight/obese grouping category.

75 Maturity status

Somatic maturity status was estimated by determining years from attainment of peak height velocity. Attainment of peak height velocity reflects the age at maximum growth rate in stature during adolescence. Maturity offset (i.e., years from attainment of peak height velocity) for each child was predicted using sex-specific regression equations that included stature, sitting height, leg length, chronological age and their interactions (19). This non-invasive method has demonstrated acceptable agreement when correlated against skeletal age (r = 0.83) (19) and is commonly used in physical activity research (9, 32)

83 *Physical self-perceptions*

84 Physical self-perceptions were assessed using the Children and Youth version of the Physical 85 Self-Perception Profile (CY-PSPP) (45). The CY-PSPP follows a hierarchical structure with global 86 self-esteem at the apex and Physical Self-Worth positioned at the domain level. Subordinate to 87 Physical Self-Worth are four sub-domains of Sport Competence, Physical Condition, Body 88 Attractiveness, and Physical Strength. Each domain is measured on a 1 to 4 scale by six items that 89 utilize a structured alternative format to reduce socially desirable responses. The CY-PSPP was 90 administered in the children's classrooms by research staff who provided verbal and visual examples 91 of how and where to respond to items on the profile.

92 *Physical activity*

Physical activity was objectively measured every 5 seconds using ActiGraph accelerometers
(GT1M, ActiGraph LLC, Pensacola, FL). The children were instructed to wear the ActiGraph over
the right hip using a waist mounted nylon belt, from waking in the morning until bedtime. In 2008
children were asked to wear the accelerometers for 5 consecutive days, including 2 weekend days. In
2009 increased availability of ActiGraphs meant that the wear time protocol increased to 7
consecutive days, including 2 weekend days. At the end of the data collection period ActiGraphs were
downloaded using Actlife software (ActiGraph LLC, Pensacola, FL). Downloaded files were initially

100 checked for compliance to the monitoring protocol using customized software (MAHUffe; www.mrc-101 epid.cam.ac.uk). Sustained 20 minute periods of zero counts indicated that the ActiGraph had been removed, and total 'missing' counts for those periods represented the duration that monitors were not 102 103 worn. Children were included in the data analysis if they wore the monitors for at least 600 minutes 104 each day for a minimum of 3 days (18). Published cut-points for different intensity levels in children vary substantially [e.g., between 906 (41) and 3200 counts • min⁻¹ for MPA (26)], and in the absence 105 of individual calibration data there is no consensus as to the most appropriate cut-points to use. Thus, 106 107 we chose the values reported by Ekelund and colleagues (2007) in the European Youth Heart Study 108 (8) because they fell between the most extreme values reported (26, 41) and were appropriate to the age group of interest. The ActiGraph count cut-points for minutes spent in sedentary activity, MPA 109 and VPA were <500, 2000, and 4000 counts • min⁻¹, respectively (8). 110

111 Data analysis

112 Descriptive statistics were calculated for all measured variables and weight status differences 113 were examined by independent *t*-tests. Sex-specific binomial logistic regression was used to establish 114 the association between normal weight status, and physical activity and physical self-perceptions. 115 Analyses were adjusted for age, maturity status, and socio-economic status. Specific predictor 116 variables were minutes spent in sedentary time, MPA, and VPA, and perceived Sport Competence, Physical Condition, Body Attractiveness, Physical Strength, and Physical Self-Worth. Effect sizes 117 were computed as adjusted odds ratios (ORs) and 95% confidence intervals. All analyses were 118 119 conducted using SPSS v. 15 (SPSS Inc; Chicago, IL) and statistical significance was set at p < 0.05. 120 RESULTS Preliminary analyses confirmed that the data were normally distributed, and that the 121 assumptions of linearity of logit and collinearity (Tolerance and VIF statistics) were met. Strong 122 internal consistencies were demonstrated for each of the physical self-perception sub-domains. 123

124 Cronbach's alpha coefficients for boys and girls ranged from 0.75 - 0.76 (Sport Competence), 0.78 –

125 0.79 (Physical Condition), 0.83 – 0.87 (Body Attractiveness), 0.76 - 0.83 (Physical Strength), and

126 0.74 – 0.84 (Physical Self-Worth). In 2008 and 2009, 47 (20.4%) and 44 (16.3%) of children,

127 respectively did not meet the minimum ActiGraph wear time criteria and so were excluded from the

128 data set. The main reason for exclusion was non-compliance, but one ActiGraph was lost in 2008 and six malfunctioned in 2009. Overall, 409 children were included in the analyses (224 girls) giving an 129 overall compliance rate of 81.8%. There were significant differences in time spent sedentary and in 130 MPA between included and excluded children (sedentary: excluded = 339.9 minutes vs. included = 131 132 578.5 minutes, p < .0001; MPA: excluded = 31.2 minutes vs. included = 40.0 minutes, p < 0.0001). Nineteen percent of children provided data on 7 valid measurement days, 15.4% on 6 days, 33.4% on 133 134 5 days, 19.5% on 4 days, and 12.7% on 3 days. Physical activity levels did not differ between children 135 with 7, 6, 5, 4, or 3 days of valid data. Mean duration of daily monitoring was 11.8 hours for boys and 136 girls.

137 *Descriptive analyses*

138 There were no significant differences in age, stature, body mass, BMI, or maturation between 139 the 2008 and 2008 cohorts (p < 0.05). Overweight/obese boys and girls were significantly taller, 140 heavier, and somatically more mature than normal weight peers (Table 1). The majority of children 141 were categorized as normal-weight (Boys: 78.5%; Girls: 76.2%), with 18.3% and 18.8% of boys and 142 girls, respectively overweight, and 3.2% (boys) and 4.9% (girls) categorized as obese. These values 143 are broadly representative of the town's school-age population when the IOTF BMI cut-points are 144 applied (36). Stature and body mass were similar for boys and girls although girls' maturity offset values (-1.26 years) were more advanced than boys (-2.97 years). 145

146 TABLE 1 ABOUT HERE

Sedentary time was similar between sex and weight status groups (Table 2). Normal-weight 147 and overweight/obese boys' MPA differed by around 0.7 minutes, compared to 1.3 minutes for girls. 148 Significant differences in VPA were observed among normal-weight and overweight/obese boys (t 185 149 = 3.93, p = 0.001) and girls ($t_{221} = 2.68$, p = 0.008). Sixty six percent of normal-weight boys achieved 150 the recommended minimum of 60 minutes moderate-to-vigorous physical activity (MVPA) per day, 151 compared to 47.5% of overweight/obese boys ($\chi^2_1 = 4.56$, p = 0.03). Sixty minutes of MVPA was 152 achieved by 30% and 22.6% of normal-weight and overweight/obese girls, respectively ($\chi^2_1 = 1.08, p$ 153 = 0.30). Significant differences in normal-weight and overweight/obese boys' and girls' physical self-154 155 perceptions were evident in all sub-domains, with the exception of Sport Competence, and Physical

156 Strength (Table 2). The greatest differences in normal-weight and overweight/obese boys' and girls'

157 physical self-perceptions were in perceived Physical Condition and Body Attractiveness.

158 TABLE 2 ABOUT HERE

159 Main analyses

160 After controlling for the effects of boys' age, maturation, and socio-economic status, normalweight status was significantly associated with VPA but not with MPA or sedentary time (OR = 1.13) 161 (1.03, 1.23), p = 0.01; Table 3). Furthermore, normal-weight status was significantly associated with 162 boys' self-perceptions of Physical Condition (OR = 5.05 (1.52, 16.75), p = .008) and Body 163 Attractiveness (OR = 4.44 (1.51, 13.06), p = 0.007). Following adjustment for girls' age, maturation 164 and socio-economic status, analysis revealed a significant association between normal-weight status 165 166 and VPA (OR = 1.13 (1.02, 1.25), p = 0.03, but not MPA or sedentary time (Table 3). Moreover, 167 among girls, normal-weight status was significantly associated with self-perceptions of Physical Condition (OR = 2.50 (0.90, 6.98), p = 0.08) and Body Attractiveness (OR = 2.56 (1.14, 5.71), p =168 169 0.02). 170 **TABLE 3 ABOUT HERE** 171 DISCUSSION 172 This study investigated associations between primary school children's weight status, physical activity levels and physical self-perceptions. VPA was significantly different between 173 normal-weight and overweight/obese children and VPA was significantly and positively associated 174 with normal-weight status, although the strength of the effect sizes was modest. Normal-weight 175 176 children accumulated 5.8 minutes (boys) and 3.04 minutes (girls) more VPA per day than their overweight/obese peers. Differences in VPA between normal-weight and overweight and obese 177 children have previously been reported in the range of 6.4 minutes for boys and girls combined (40), 2 178 minutes for boys (35), and ~1 minute for girls (38). Comparisons with the present study are difficult 179 due to the different accelerometer protocols, analyses, and cut-points used to classify VPA. Two 180 studies (35, 38) used higher VPA cut-points than in our investigation, which may explain in part why 181 182 smaller differences in VPA were observed. Although Trost and colleagues used a similar VPA cut-183 point to the one used in our study, boys' and girls' VPA was combined which precludes comparisons

184 by gender. These observed differences in VPA may not have accurately reflected energy expenditure of the normal-weight and overweight/obese groups. It is reported that the energy cost of participating 185 in higher intensity physical activity can be greater for overweight/obese or low fit youth than for 186 leaner or fitter peers (33). Using age-related reference values for children's physical activity energy 187 expenditure (15) we estimated that 5.8 minutes VPA (i.e., walking at 5.6 km \cdot h⁻¹) for the normal-188 weight boys would yield an energy cost of 24.6 kcal, but the same duration of MPA (i.e., walking at 4 189 $km \cdot h^{-1}$) for the overweight/obese boys would require a greater energy cost at 26.2 kcal. Thus, it is 190 possible that the overweight/obese children were doing more VPA than indicated by the 191 192 accelerometer counts in terms of energy expended, but this was misclassified as MPA because 193 accelerometers are unable to assess the physiological strain of physical activity. This issue may have 194 partially influenced the magnitude of the associations between VPA and weight status.

195 MPA was not associated with weight status, which concurs with previous studies (49), 196 although others have reported moderate correlations between MPA and body fat (31). Our results 197 suggest that regardless of weight status most children in the sample engaged in health-enhancing 198 physical activity at the minimal, moderate intensity level. Sedentary time did not differ by weight 199 status which supports a recent investigation into associations between children's objectively assessed 200 sedentary time and body composition (34). Although significant relationships between self-reported 201 time spent TV viewing and video gaming, and body fat have been observed, the reported effect sizes 202 were small, possibly due to the use of single, self-report, discrete markers of sedentary behavior, 203 rather than objective measures (17). Differences in the measurement and classification of sedentary 204 activity and weight status, as well as the affect of confounders such as socio-economic status, sleep 205 duration, and food intake may be contributory factors explaining the lack of consistency between studies investigating sedentary behaviors and weight status (21). 206

207 Normal-weight children reported significantly stronger physical self-perceptions than
208 overweight/obese peers. Furthermore, overweight/obese girls scored lower in all domains than
209 overweight/obese boys. Similar weight status and gender-related differences in self-perceptions have
210 been observed elsewhere, particularly in relation to perceived physical competence and appearance
211 (14). Body dissatisfaction is common among overweight/obese youth and is related to comparisons

212 with societal body shape ideals and resultant social stigmatization (13). Recently it was reported how body dissatisfaction mediated associations between different aspects of physical self-perception and 213 BMI in boys but not in girls (20). The authors of this study suggested that improved physical self-214 perceptions achieved through physical activity experiences could reduce body dissatisfaction of 215 216 overweight and obese boys, but in girls body dissatisfaction might be linked more to aesthetic appearance than physical activity-related competence, hence the stronger mediating effects of 217 218 physical self-perceptions among boys (20). Considering the influence of body dissatisfaction the significant associations between perceived Body Attractiveness and weight status were anticipated, 219 220 although the magnitude of these effects (Boys: OR = 4.44; Girls: OR = 2.54) revealed differences in 221 the relative influence of Body Attractiveness between the sexes. These effect size differences reflect 222 the higher ratings of Body Attractiveness among boys, which were consistent with other studies in 223 similarly aged children (4, 9). Although girls typically attach more importance to Body Attractiveness 224 (46) their perceptions are often unable to match their expectations, possibly because pressure to 225 conform to a societal and cultural stereotype body shape is greater on girls than boys, and girls 226 experience more obvious physical changes during puberty than boys (22).

227 Perceived Physical Condition was also significantly associated with normal-weight status, 228 with these associations strongest in boys (OR = 5.05 vs. 2.5 in girls). The strength of the associations 229 observed for the normal-weight boys and girls reflects the relative differences in their ratings of 230 Physical Condition, which concur with those described previously (9). In the current sample 231 perceptions of Physical Condition, conceptualized in the CY-PSPP as fitness and exercise (45) were 232 lowest among children with the highest BMI values. Previous studies have reported moderate correlations between perceived Physical Condition and cardiorespiratory fitness (44), while the 233 inverse association between cardiorespiratory fitness and adiposity/weight status is well established 234 (8). Thus, it is likely that the children's perceived Physical Condition was based in part on their actual 235 236 levels of cardiorespiratory fitness (44). These perceptions of Physical Condition may have been 237 manifested through class-based norm-referenced assessments (e.g., multi-stage fitness test) and/or 238 direct comparisons with peers during play and physical activity (e.g., effort and exertion during sports 239 or vigorous games) (43). Although cardiorespiratory fitness was not assessed in this study the strong

240 associations between perceived Physical Condition and weight status may reflect differing levels of 241 cardiorespiratory fitness between the normal-weight and overweight/obese children, which have been observed previously (28). Cardiorespiratory fitness is inversely and independently associated with 242 clustered cardiovascular risk, although fatness may partly mediate this association (29). Though 243 244 physical activity engagement is beneficial to both cardiorespiratory fitness and clustered cardiovascular risk, actual engagement in activity may be compromised among overweight and obese 245 children without a reduction in abdominal fat (29). Nonetheless, physical activity interventions can be 246 247 effective among children with unfavorable cardiovascular risk profiles, when such protocols are of sufficient duration, have appropriate volumes of activity, and are implemented by expert personnel 248 (27). 249

250 *Study limitations and strengths*

251 This study had several limitations which need acknowledging. The cross-sectional nature of 252 the study precludes any claims about causality and direction in relation to the variables of interest. 253 The selection of accelerometer cut-points had an influence on the extent of the associations with 254 weight status. As there is no consensus about the most appropriate accelerometer cut-points to use 255 with pediatric populations we employed previously published values (8) that have been used to 256 address similar research questions to ours with comparable populations (34). Moreover, 257 accelerometers assess movement and are unable to assess the physiological strain of physical activity. For this reason the energy cost of the normal-weight and overweight/obese children's physical 258 259 engagement was unknown. Data were collected in the autumn and winter when temperatures averaged 260 8.5°C and daylight hours were limited to between 10 and 7.8 hours. For these reasons physical activity levels may have been lower than during the spring and summer. Although BMI has 261 limitations as a measure of adiposity, it is strongly associated with body fat among youth (25) and so 262 is a most appropriate measure for school-based studies such as this. Strengths of this study were the 263 use of a large sample of children, objective measures of physical activity to assess physical activity at 264 different intensities, and analyses which were adjusted for common confounders. 265

266 Conclusions

This novel investigation studied associations between children's weight status, different 267 268 intensities of physical activity, and physical self-perceptions. Significant modest associations were observed between normal-weight status and time spent in VPA. Time spent sedentary and in MPA 269 270 were similar regardless of weight status. Normal-weight children had more positive physical selfperceptions than overweight/obese counterparts, particularly with regards to perceptions of Body 271 Attractiveness and Physical Condition. Moreover, the magnitude of these associations was greatest 272 273 among boys. Future research needs to confirm causal relationships between the correlates investigated 274 in this study through longitudinal and interventional type investigations.

275

276		
277		REFERENCES
278	1.	Antonogeorgos, G., A. Papadimitriou, D.B. Panagiotakos, K.N. Priftis, and P. Nikolaidou.
279		Physical activity patterns and obesity status among 10- to 12- year old adolescents living in
280		Athens, Greece. J. Phys. Act. Health. 7:633-640, 2010.
281	2.	Census.ac.uk. National Statistics Postcode Directory. Available from:
282		http://census.ac.uk/guides/Lookup_tables.aspx, 2008.
283	3.	Cole, T.J., M.C. Bellizzi, K.M. Flegal, and W.H. Dietz. Establishing a standard definition for
284		child overweight and obesity worldwide: international survey. Br. Med. J. 320:1240-1244,
285		2000.
286	4.	Crocker, P.R.E., R.C. Ekelund, and K.C. Kowalski. Children's physical activity and physical
287		self-perceptions. J. Sports Sci. 18:383-394, 2000.
288	5.	Deckelbaum, R.J. and C.L. Williams. Childhood obesity: the health issue. Obes. Res. Suppl.
289		9/4:239-243, 2001.
290	6.	Department for Communities and Local Government. The English Indices of Deprivation
291		2007. Wetherby: Communities and Local Government Publications, 2008.
292	7.	Dietz, W.H. Health consequences of obsity in youth: childhood predictors of adult disease.
293		Pediatrics. 101:518-525, 1998.
294	8.	Ekelund, U., S.A. Anderssen, K. Froberg, L.B. Sardinha, L.B. Andersen, and S. Brage.
295		Independent associations of physical activity and cardiorespiratory fitness with metabolic risk
296		factors in children: the European Youth Heart Study. Diabetologia. 50:1832-1840, 2007.
297	9.	Fairclough, S.J. and N.D. Ridgers. Relationships between maturity status, physical activity,
298		and physical self-perceptions in primary school children. J. Sports. Sci. 28:1-9, 2010.
299	10.	Fox, K.R. Tackling obesity in children through physical activity: a perspective from the
300		United Kingdom. Quest. 56:28-40, 2004.
301	11.	Fox, K.R. and C.B. Corbin. The physical self-perception profile: Development and
302		preliminary validation. J. Sport. Exerc. Psyc. 11:408-430, 1989.

303 12. Franklin, J., G. Denyer, K.S. Steinbeck, I.D. Caterson, and A.J. Hill. Obesity and Risk of Low 304 Self-esteem: A Statewide Survey of Australian Children. Pediatrics. 118:2481-2487, 2006. 13. Friedman, M.A. and K.D. Brownell. Psychological correlates of obesity: moving to the next 305 research generation. Psychol.Bull. 117:3-20, 1995. 306 307 14. Griffiths, L.J., T.J. Parsons, and A.J. Hill. Self-esteem and quality of life in obese children and adolescents: A systematic review. Int. J. Pediatr. Obes. 5:282-304, 2010. 308 15. Harrell, J.S., R.G. McMurray, C.D. Baggett, M.L. Pennell, P.F. Pearce, and S.I. Bangdiwala. 309 Energy costs of physical activities in children and adolescents. Med. Sci. Sports Exerc. 310 37:329-336, 2005. 311 16. Harter, S. The Perceived Competence Scale for Children. Child Dev. 53:87-97, 1982. 312 313 17. Marshall, S.J., S.J.H. Biddle, T. Gorely, N. Cameron, and I. Murdey. Relationships between 314 media use, body fatness and physical activity in children and youth: A meta-analysis. Int. J. 315 Obes. 28:1238-1246, 2004. 316 18. Mattocks, C., A.R. Ness, S.D. Leary, et al. Use of accelerometers in a large field-based study 317 of children: Protocols, design issues, and effects on precision. J. Phys. Act. Health. 5:S98-318 S111, 2008. 319 19. Mirwald, R.L., A.D.G. Baxter-Jones, D.A. Bailey, and G.P. Beunen. An assessment of 320 maturity from anthropometric measurements. Med. Sci. Sports Exerc. 34:689-694, 2002. 321 20. Morano, M., D. Colella, C. Robazza, L. Bortoli, and L. Capranica. Physical self-perception and motor performance in normal-weight, overweight and obese children. Scan. J. Med. Sci. 322 323 Sports. doi: 10.1111/j.1600-0838.2009.01068.x, 2010. 21. Must, A. and D.J. Tybor. Physical activity and sedentary behavior: a review of longitudinal 324 studies of weight and adiposity in youth. Int. J. Obes. 29 Suppl 2:S84-96, 2005. 325 Niven, A.G., S.G. Fawkner, A.M. Knowles, and C. Stephenson. Maturational differences in 326 22. physical self-perceptions and relationships with physical activity in early adolescent girls. 327 Pediatr. Exerc. Sci. 19:472-480, 2007. 328 O'Dea, J.A. Self-concept, self-esteem and body weight in adolescent females. J. Health 329 23. 330 Psychol. 11:599-611, 2006.

- Parikh, T. and G. Stratton. Influence of intensity of physical activity on adiposity and
 cardiorespiratory fitness in 5-18 year olds. *Sports. Med.* 41:477-488, 2011.
- Pietrobelli, A., M.S. Faith, D.B. Allison, D. Gallagher, G. Chiumello, and S.B. Heymsfield.
 Body mass index as a measure of adiposity among children and adolescents: A validation
 study. *J. Pediatrics.* 132:204-210, 1998.
- Puyau, M., A. Adolph, F. Vohra, and N. Butte. Validation and calibration of physical activity
 monitors in children. *Obes. Res.* 10:150-157, 2002.
- 338 27. Resaland, G.K., S.A. Anderssen, I.M. Holme, A. Mamen, and L.B. Andersen. Effects of a 2-
- 339 year school-based daily physical activity intervention on cardiovascular disease risk factors:
- 340 The Sogndal school-intervention study. Scand. J. Med. Sci. Sports. doi: 10.1111/j.1600-

341 0838.2010.01181.x, 2010.

- Resaland, G.K., A. Mamen, S.A. Anderssen, and L.B. Andersen. Cardiorespiratory fitness
 and body mass index values in 9-year-old Norwegian children. *Acta. Paediatr.* 98:687-692,
 2008.
- Resaland, G.K., A. Mamen, C. Boreham, S.A. Anderssen, and L.B. Andersen. Cardiovascular
 risk factor clustering and its association with fitness in nine-year-old rural Norwegian
- 347 children. Scand. J. Med. Sci. Sports. 20:e112-20, 2010.
- 348 30. Rokholm, B., J.L. Baker, and T.I. Sorensen. The levelling off of the obesity epidemic since
 349 the year 1999 a review of evidence and perspectives. *Obes. Rev.* 11:835-846, 2010.
- 350 31. Rowlands, A.V., D.K. Ingledew, and R.G. Eston. The relationship between body fatness and
 habitual physical activity in children: A meta-analysis. *Pediatr. Exerc. Sci.* 11:263, 1999.
- 352 32. Sherar, L.B., D.W. Esliger, A.D.G. Baxter-Jones, and M.S. Trembaly. Age and gender
- differences in youth physical activity: Does physical maturity matter? *Med. Sci. Sports Exerc.*39:830-835, 2007.
- 355 33. Spadano, J.L., A. Must, L.G. Bandini, G.E. Dallal, and W.H. Dietz. Energy cost of physical
 activities in 12 y old girls: MET values and the influence of body weight. *Int. J. Obes.*
- 357 27:1528-1533, 2003.

- 358 34. Steele, R.M., E.M. van Sluijs, A. Cassidy, S.J. Griffin, and U. Ekelund. Targeting sedentary
 time or moderate- and vigorous-intensity activity: independent relations with adiposity in a
 population-based sample of 10-y-old British children. *Am. J. Clin. Nutr.* 90:1185-92, 2009.
- 361 35. Stone, M.R., A.V. Rowlands, and R.G. Eston. Characteristics of the activity pattern in normal
 362 weight and overweight boys. *Prev. Med.* 49:205-8, 2009.
- 363 36. The NHS Information Centre, *National Child Measurement Programme: England 2009/10*364 *school year*. London: NHS, 2010.
- 365 37. The NHS Information Centre, *Statistics on Obesity, Physical Activity and Diet: England,*366 2010. London: The Health and Social Care Information Centre, 2010.
- 367 38. Treuth, M.S., D.J. Catellier, K.H. Schmitz, et al. Weekend and weekday patterns of physical
 368 activity in overweight and normal-weight adolescent girls. *Obes.* 15:1782-8, 2007.
- 369 39. Troiano, R.P., D. Berrigan, K.W. Dodd, L.C. Masse, T. Tilert, and M. McDowell. Physical
 activity in the United States measured by accelerometer. *Med. Sci. Sports Exerc.* 40:181-8,
 2008.
- Trost, S.G., L. Kerr, and R.R. Pate. Physical activity and determinants of physical activity in
 obese and non-obese children. *Int. J. Obes.* 25:822-829, 2001.
- Trost, S.G., R.R. Pate, J.F. Sallis, et al. Age and gender differences in objectively measured
 physical activity in youth. *Med. Sci. Sports Exerc.* 34:350-355, 2002.
- Van der Horst, K., M.J.C.A. Paw, J.W.R. Twisk, and W. Van Mechelen. A brief review on
 correlates of physical activity and sedentariness in youth. *Med. Sci. Sports Exerc.* 39:12411250, 2007.
- Weiss, M.R., V. Ebbeck, and T.S. Horn. Children's self-perceptions and sources of physical
 competence information: A cluster analysis. *J. Sport Exerc. Psychol.* 19:52-70, 1997.
- Welk, G.J. and B. Eklund. Validation of the children and youth physical self perceptions
 profile for young children. *Psychol. Sport Exerc.* 6:51-65, 2005.
- Whitehead, J.R. A study of children's physical self-perceptions using an adapted physical selfperception profile questionnaire. *Pediatr. Exerc. Sci.* 7:132-151, 1995.

385	46.	Whitehead, J.R. and C.B. Corbin. Self-esteem in children and youth: The role of sport and
386		physical education. In: The Physical Self: From Motivation to Well-Being. K.R. Fox (Ed.).
387		Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics, 1997, pp. 175-203.
388	47.	WiganCouncil. Equality and Diversity - Welcome. Available from:
389		http://www.wigan.gov.uk/Services/CouncilDemocracy/PoliciesPlans/EqualOportunities/Equa
390		lityAndDiversityWelcome.htm, 2011.
391	48.	Wilks, D.C., H. Besson, A.K. Lindroos, and U. Ekelund. Objectively measured physical
392		activity and obesity prevention in children, adolescents and adults: a systematic review of
393		prospective studies. Obes. Rev. doi: 10.1111/j.1467-789X.2010.00775.x. 2010.
394	49.	Wittmeier, K.D., R.C. Mollard, and D.J. Kriellaars. Physical activity intensity and risk of
395		overweight and adiposity in children. Obes. 16:415-20, 2008.
396		

	Boys			Girls			
-	Normal-weight Overweight/obes		р	Normal-weight	Overweight/obese	р	
	(<i>n</i> = 146)	(n = 40)		(n = 170)	(<i>n</i> = 53)		
Age (years)	10.66 (0.33)	10.74 (0.30)	0.14	10.65 (0.33)	10.66 (0.32)	0.80	
Stature (cm)	142.72 (7.37)	146.44 (5.03)	0.003	143.75 (6.97)	146.88 (6.80)	0.005	
Body mass (kg)	34.43 (5.88)	49.02 (6.38)	< 0.0001	34.98 (5.97)	49.42 (6.60)	< 0.0001	
BMI $(m \cdot kg^{-2})$	16.80 (1.77)	22.80 (2.17)	< 0.0001	16.83 (1.93)	22.95 (3.31)	< 0.0001	
Maturity offset (years)	-3.07 (0.48)	-2.59 (0.38)	<.0001	-1.38 (0.50)	-0.87 (0.49)	< .0001	
^a SES (^b IMD score)	18.60 (11.63)	17.82 (10.69)	0.71	17.22 (10.43)	20.10 (13.18)	0.11	

Table 1. Descriptive characteristics of normal-weight and overweight/obese boys and girls ($M \pm SD$)

 ${}^{a}SES =$ socio-economic status; ${}^{b}IMD =$ indices of multiple deprivation

	Boys			Girls				
-	Normal-weight Overweight/obese		р	Normal-weight	Overweight/obese	р		
	(<i>n</i> = 146)	(<i>n</i> = 40)		(n = 170)	(<i>n</i> = 53)			
Physical activity (min/day)								
Sedentary	572.33 (74.02)	582.64 (78.90)	0.44	590.75 (68.25)	581.31 (77.90)	0.40		
^a MPA	43.23 (11.16)	42.46 (11.58)	0.70	36.60 (8.25)	35.33 (8.25)	0.37		
^b VPA	23.79 (10.12)	17.99 (7.26)	0.001	17.92 (7.53)	14.88 (5.93)	0.008		
Physical self-perceptions								
Sport Competence	3.11 (0.64)	2.91 (0.60)	0.09	2.93 (0.56)	2.73 (0.54)	0.03		
Physical Condition	3.18 (0.64)	2.69 (0.51)	< 0.0001	3.02 (0.58)	2.75 (0.59)	0.004		
Attractive Body	2.91 (0.68)	2.38 (0.59)	< 0.0001	2.84 (0.67)	2.31 (0.54)	< 0.0001		
Physical Strength	2.91 (0.67)	2.86 (0.50)	0.60	2.65 (0.60)	2.68 (0.54)	0.79		
Physical Self-Worth	3.07 (0.64)	2.82 (0.56)	0.03	3.02 (0.61)	2.77 (0.60)	0.01		

Table 2. Objectively assessed physical activity and physical self-perceptions of normal-weight and overweight/obese boys and girls ($M \pm SD$)

^aMPA = moderate intensity physical activity; ^bVPA = vigorous intensity physical activity

	Boys			Girls				
Predictor	B (SE)	р	OR	95% CI	B (SE)	р	OR	95% CI
Constant	-12.16 (11.45)				-34.31 (10.21)			
Physical activity (min)								
Sedentary	0.004 (0.004)	0.22	1.0	1.0, 1.01	0.002 (0.003)	0.48	1.0	1.0, 1.01
^a MPA	-0.06 (0.03)	0.05	0.94	0.89, 1.0	-0.04 (0.03)	0.19	0.96	0.90, 1.02
^b VPA	0.12 (0.05)	0.01	1.13	1.03, 1.23	0.12 (0.05)	0.03	1.13	1.02, 1.25
Physical self-perceptions								
Sport competence	-0.39 (0.67)	0.56	0.68	0.18, 2.53	-0.54 (0.59)	0.36	0.58	0.18, 1.85
Physical condition	1.62 (0.61)	0.008	5.05	1.52, 16.75	0.92 (0.51)	0.08	2.50	0.90, 6.98
Attractive body	1.49 (0.55)	0.007	4.44	1.51, 13.06	0.94 (0.41)	0.02	2.56	1.14, 5.71
Physical strength	-0.67 (0.52)	0.20	0.51	0.19, 1.41	-0.69 (0.51)	0.17	0.50	0.19, 1.35
Physical self-worth	-1.03 (0.68)	0.13	0.36	0.09, 1.36	-0.61 (0.60)	0.31	0.54	0.17, 1.77

Table 3. Associations between boys' and girls' physical activity, physical self-perceptions and normal weight status

^aMPA = moderate intensity physical activity; ^bVPA = vigorous intensity physical activity