



The “Red Flag” Early Intervention Referral Guide for children 0 – 5 years



How to use this resource

This resource is a tool to help you to determine whether a child may have developmental delays. It will allow you to refer early before the child begins to struggle to achieve tasks usually managed by children of the same age.

Step 1:

Find the child’s age across the top of the table below.

Step 2:

Read through the list and identify if the child is demonstrating any of the Red Flags at their age level.

Step 3:

If the child is between age levels (e.g. 2 yrs 5 months) check the lower age level for Red Flags (ie. 2 yrs)

When to be concerned?

One or more Red Flags (in any area) is a sign of delayed development.

Who to go to?

Parents:

If you have concerns about your child’s development, please contact your Family Doctor or Child Health Nurse Phone: (07) 4992 7000

Health Professionals:

If you have screened and identified any Red Flags, please contact your local Child Development Service.

Who helps with these Red Flags?

Children aged 0 – 5 years who have a developmental concern, may benefit from the services from any of the following:

- Paediatrician
- Speech Pathologist
- Occupational Therapist
- Physiotherapist
- Social Worker
- Psychologist
- Dietitian

































































Local Child Development Service

Banana Community and Allied Health Services
Phone (07) 4992 7000
Office Hours 8.00 am to 4.30 pm
Monday to Friday

www.health.qld.gov.au/cq/child-development

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Red Flag referral guidelines

	6 months	9 months	12 months	18 months	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years	Red Flags at any stage
 Social / Emotional	 Does not smile or squeal in response to people	 Not sharing enjoyment with others using eye contact or facial expression	 Does not notice someone new  Does not play early turn taking games (e.g. peekaboo, rolling a ball)	 Lacks interest in playing and interacting with others	 When playing with toys tends to bang, drop, or throw them rather than use them for their purpose (e.g. cuddle doll, build blocks)	 No interest in pretend play or other children  Difficulties in noticing and understanding feelings in themselves and others (e.g. happy, sad)	 Unwilling / unable to play cooperatively	 Play is different than their friends	 Not achieving indicated developmental milestones
 Communication	 Lack of or limited eye contact								 Strong parent concerns  Significant loss of skills  Lack of response to sound or visual stimuli
 Fine Motor and Cognition	 Not reaching for and holding (grasping) toys  Hands frequently clenched	 Unable to hold and/or release toys  Cannot move toy from one hand to another	 Majority of nutrition still liquid/puree  Cannot chew solid food  Unable to pick up small items using index finger and thumb	 Not holding or scribbling with a crayon  Does not attempt to tower blocks	 Does not have at least 50 words  Not putting words together eg. ‘push car’  Most of what is said is not easily understood	 Difficulty helping with self care skills (e.g. feeding, dressing)  Difficulty manipulating small objects e.g. threading beads	 Not toilet trained by day  Unable to draw lines and circles	 Concerns from teacher about school readiness  Not independent with eating and dressing  Cannot draw simple pictures (e.g. stick person)	 Poor interaction with adults or other children  Difference between right and left sides of body in strength, movement or tone
 Gross Motor	 Not rolling  Not holding head and shoulders up when on tummy	 Not sitting without support  Not moving eg. creeping or crawling motion  Does not take weight well on legs when held by an adult	 Not crawling or bottom shuffling  Not pulling to stand  Not standing holding on to furniture	 Not attempting to walk without support  Not standing alone	 Unable to run  Unable to use stairs holding on  Unable to throw a ball	 Not running well  Cannot walk up and down stairs  Cannot kick or throw a ball  Cannot jump with 2 feet together	 Cannot pedal a tricycle  Cannot catch, throw or kick a ball  Cannot balance well standing on one leg	 Awkward when walking, running, climbing and using stairs  Ball skills are very different to their peers  Unable to hop 5 times on each foot	 Loose and floppy movements (low tone) or stiff and tense (high tone)

Parents - If there are Red Flags call your Family Doctor or Child Health Nurse
Professionals - REFER EARLY – DO NOT WAIT

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