

Dear Parent,

I write to you to seek your earnest and urgent support with Health Visiting led Developmental Reviews for your toddlers who may be between **8month-15 months and/ or 2-2.5 year old**.

A health review is an opportunity to:

- assess the health and development of the child within the context of his or her environment of home and family circumstances
- ensure that families are linked in with the right services and support
- identify and address issues the parent or carer may have regarding the child's health

As part of the review, an experienced health visiting service, works with parents to complete an Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) about their child's development. The questionnaire is a holistic and comprehensive assessment of your child's developmental appropriateness across five key domains:

1. Gross Motor
2. Fine Motor
3. Personal/Social
4. Communication
5. Problem Solving

Age 2-2.5 is a crucial stage when problems such as speech and language delay, tooth decay or behavioural issues become visible. Your collaborative working with the health visiting service can facilitate early help and support upstream before problems develop further.

Good quality evidence based early identification through developmental reviews, and health visitor facilitation of early intervention/support is **key for improving outcomes and nursery readiness**.

You should have received an appointment for a two year review, by post. If you are unsure, and want health visiting advice, please feel free to contact me at rekha.vijayshankar@nhs.net.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely Yours,

Rekha Vijayshankar, MA, MBA, Specialist Public Health Nurse, Associate King's College

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