

A strong start: The two year old integrated review



Children learn through playing, exploring, being active and creative and developing their thinking.

Why does the integrated review take place when my child is two?

Age two is an important time for children. It is the ideal time to celebrate your child's achievements and it's an opportunity to provide your child with any extra help they might need to make a real difference to their future. Bringing together the thoughts of you, as the child's parent/carer, your health visitor and childcare provider (if your child has one) will ensure:

- We record your child's progress, the things they can do well and anything they may need extra support with
- Your child can start to access the services they need to meet their individual needs



Q What does 'integrated' mean?

A It means parents/carers, early years providers and health services working together to help all children have the best start in life. We already know the early years are a vital stage in a child's life and that they have a great impact upon later achievements.

Q What happens in the integrated review?

A You will receive a letter from your health visiting team asking you to make an appointment to review your child's development. During this appointment you'll be asked to complete an 'Ages and Stages Questionnaire' (sometimes called the ASQ).

Your health visitor will also be able to advise you on your child's feeding habits, sleep, development, toileting, dental and general safety.

If your child attends a childcare provider, they will be in touch with your child's health visitor around about the time they do your child's two year old progress check. The provider will also ask you for your thoughts on your child's interests and development at home. They will then complete the report including their own observations and assessments. You will all discuss your child's strengths, areas for development and any support that can be put in place to meet your child's needs and give them the best start in life. As the parent/carer, you will be asked to give your consent to the information being shared with the health visitor, children's centre and any relevant support teams.

Q Why do I need to be involved?

A You are your child's most important educator and you know your child best, so your views of your child's learning and development and progress matter and they are highly valued.

Q I am already concerned about my child's development and I am worried about the assessment.

A First of all, don't worry! The integrated review provides a perfect time to assess and discuss your concerns and put a plan together to meet your child's needs.

Q My child has a special educational need/disability (SEND), so what will this mean for my child?

A You may already have several teams working with you and your child; this may mean that it is not the right time to carry out any additional assessments on your child's progress. Please ask your health visitor for more advice.

Q What happens to my child's summary documents following the integrated review?

A Your health visitor and childcare provider will keep copies in their records and share them with each other, with your permission . You will be given copies to keep in your child health record (red book).

Q I need some support to get the best out of my child's integrated review.

A If you wish, you can have a relative or friend with you while the health visitor and childcare provider are discussing your child's development.

Your local children's centre will also be able to offer you advice on activities to promote your child's development.

Your childcare provider will be discussing with you how you can support your child's learning at home and what they will be doing whilst your child is with them.

Being a parent is a special and amazing experience but it can also be challenging at times. The integrated review will help you understand more about how your child is developing by highlighting what to expect, whilst remembering all children are unique and different. The integrated review is about meeting your child's individual needs in a joined up way.



For more information about the integrated review:

Visit www.herefordshire.gov.uk/two-year-olds-integrated-review

Call: The early years team on **01432 261741**

For more guidance on your child's learning and development, we recommend reading the '**what to expect when**' booklet, which is free to download from

www.foundationyears.org.uk