

Universal Assessment & Observation Tools

1. Ages and Stages Questionnaires (ASQ)

ASQ Third Edition (ASQ-3) and ASQ Social and Emotional (ASQ-SE) published by Paul H. Brookes Publishing Co. are two of the evidenced based screening tools selected as part of the Early Years Delivery Model. ASQ is designed to illustrate a child's strengths as well as needs.

To obtain accurate outcomes, children must be screened using the correct age interval questionnaire. ASQ-3 and ASQ-SE are parent-reporting screening tools; these are the most accurate, time- and cost-efficient methods of developmental screening.

2. Newborn Behavioural Observation (NBO)

NBO is a Midwifery and Public Health Nursing observation and intervention tool which forms part of the Early Years Delivery Model. NBO is a relationship building intervention that offers individualised information to parents about their baby's abilities and behaviours. The aim is to promote a positive bond between parent and child, and thereby promote optimum development.

NBO is routinely offered up until the baby is 3 months of age.

3. Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

The Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) sets the standards that all Early Years providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. It promotes teaching and learning to ensure children's 'school readiness'.

The learning and development requirements of the EYFS comprise three prime and four specific areas of learning and development that shape educational programmes within Early Years settings.

Early years providers are required to undertake ongoing assessments of children's development against the EYFS. The EYFS is delivered to all children aged 0-5 accessing registered Early Years provision.

4. Communication and Language Journey

The Early Communication and Language Journey Resource is an essential tool which will support parents and professionals to understand early communication and language development. This shared understanding of typical development will support the early identification of any emerging needs which can then be addressed to enable children to reach their full potential and go on to be school ready and life ready. The Early Communication and Language Journey Resource is divided into seven age band sections with identified communication and language milestones. The full Communication and Language Journey is shown in a parent friendly form and is also available as a poster.