

The integrated two year review

From September 2015, local authorities, health visiting services and Early Years providers have brought together health and early education reviews for young children at the age of two to two-and-a-half. Age two to two-and-a-half is an important time for children and their parents. It is a period of rapid growth, learning and development in a young child's life, and is also a crucial time when a child's need for additional support from health services or the education system can become clear. While the care given during the first months and years of a baby's life is critical for equipping them for the future, age two is another important stage where planned contact with all children and their parents can help to make a real difference to a child's future outcomes. Integrating the existing health and education reviews at age two will help to identify problems and offer effective early intervention for those children who need more support, at an age where interventions can be more effective than they would be for an older child.

The Integrated Review for children aged two to two-and-a-half brings together existing reviews for children at around two years of age:

- **The Healthy Child Programme Review at age two to two-and-a-half.**

The Healthy Child Programme is the universal public health programme for all children and families. It consists of a schedule of reviews, immunisations, health promotion, parenting support and screening tests that promote and protect the health and wellbeing of children from pregnancy through to adulthood. The health, wellbeing and development of the child at age two has been identified as one of the six high impact areas where health visitors can have a significant impact on health and wellbeing and improving outcomes for children, families and communities. The Healthy Child Programme Review at age two to two-and-a-half is a health focused review incorporating a review of child development, including social and emotional wellbeing.

- **The Early Years Foundation Stage progress check at age two.**

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is the statutory framework setting the standards for all Early Years providers for learning, development and care for children from birth to age five. The EYFS Progress Check at age two is a statutory point of assessment within this framework. To carry out the EYFS Progress Check at age two Early Years practitioners must review a child's progress when they are aged between 24 and 36 months and provide parents with a short written summary of their child's development in the prime areas: Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language and Physical Development.

The Integrated Review draws upon the content of both reviews and brings them together in a coherent way.

What is the purpose of the Integrated Review?

The purpose of the review is to:

- Identify the child's progress, strengths and needs at this age in order to promote positive outcomes in health and wellbeing, learning and behaviour
- Facilitate appropriate intervention and support for children and their families, especially those for whom progress is less than expected
- Generate information which can be used to plan services and contribute to the reduction of inequalities in children's outcomes.

The review should be carried out in accordance with the following key principles

- The Integrated Review should engage parents, particularly those who are disadvantaged. The Integrated Review values active participation from parents both intellectually and emotionally in their child's assessment and in making decisions.
- The Integrated Review should engage the child, where they are participating: The child should be at the centre of the review, should enjoy the experience, interact and participate, helping to show what they can do, alongside the information given by parents and the ongoing observations of their Early Years practitioner.
- The Integrated Review should be a process of shared decision making: Practitioners and parents should respect each other's perspectives and contribute together to decisions on realistic and achievable actions to support the child's wellbeing. This can include agreeing changes in how both parents and the early years setting can best support the child's health, learning and development.

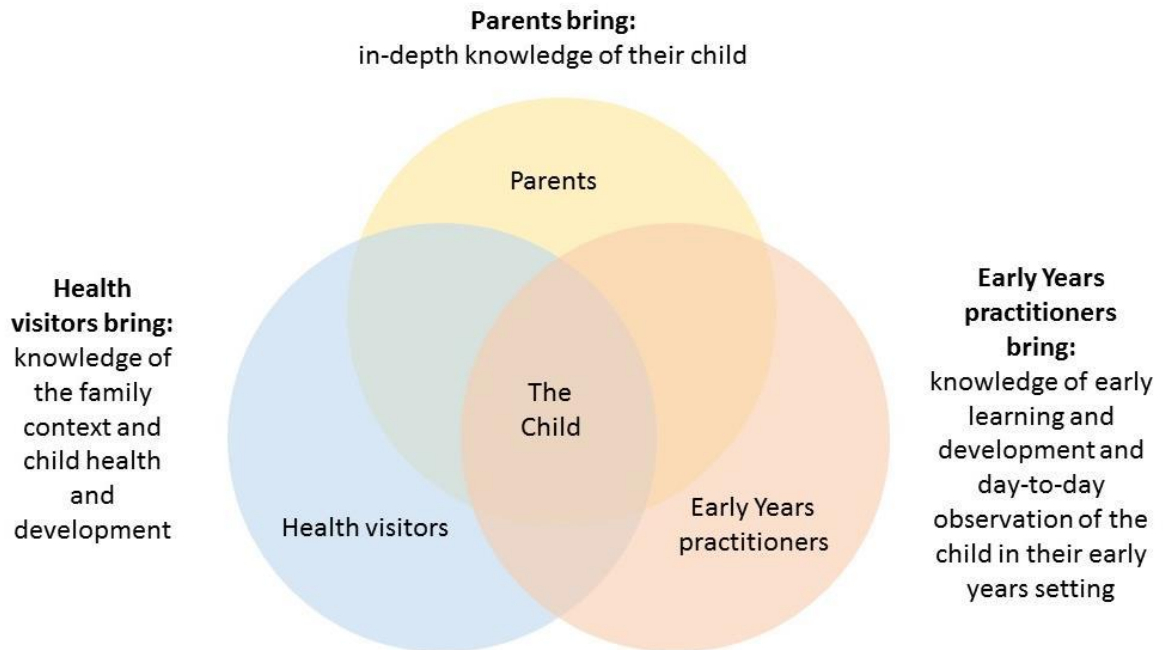
The model adopted in Hillingdon is:

Integration through information sharing before and after separate health and Early Years reviews. The 'Red Book' is used for the recording of all relevant and important information that can then be shared with Health Visitors, Early Years practitioners and parents.

We have established:

- Shared understanding of the two reviews within the Health visiting service and Early Years workforce
- Named health contact for each participating childcare setting
- Strong information-sharing protocols and systems - As identified through the communication pathway
- Regular meetings between health and early years leads

Bringing it all together: a model of shared knowledge and understanding during the Integrated Review



Where the knowledge of **parents, health visitors and early years practitioners** is brought together then their shared knowledge and understanding will enable a clear and more complete picture of the child.