

Developmental Red Flags – When to Refer?

At all ages:

- Head circumference > 98 or < 0.4 centile
- Rapid change in OFC
- Regression
- Squint
- Parental concern
- Reduced or increased tone

6 weeks

- No visual fixation or following - always refer to Ophthalmology
- Failure to respond to sound
- Asymmetrical neonatal reflexes
- Excessive head lag

12 months

- Unable to sit or bear weight when held standing
- Absence of saving reactions
- Persistence of hand regard
- No babble

2 years

- Not running
- 2 step command
- 2-3 words together

Bilingual – only have expressive delay 3-6 months

If Red Flags present refer to

Community Paediatrics :
Lambeth : Mary Sheridan Centre

Southwark : Sunshine House
Link to access referral form/contacts :

<http://www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/our-services/community-paediatric-services/referrals.aspx> 020 7188 4683 for queries

6-8 months

- Hand preference, fisting,
- Squint
- Not reaching for things
- Persistence of primitive reflexes
- Reduced tone, floppy or Poor head control
- Lack social response/ vocalisation

18 months

- Not walking
- Inability to understand simple commands
- No pointing
- No words
- No pincer grip
- Persistence of casting (throwing) or mouthing

Top tips:

- ❖ Speech and language development is the most variable domain and is sensitive to environmental factors e.g. maternal depression
- ❖ If there is delay in more than one domain – gross motor, fine motor, vision, speech and language or social development – it is more likely to be significant.