## MCH PEDS TIPSHEET:
Key Ages and Stages 12 MONTHS

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| Please list any concerns about your child's learning, development and behaviour.  
• Opens a discussion in all areas | Do you have any concerns about how your child talks and makes speech sounds?  
• May say 1-3 clear words  
• Multiple syllables and word babble e.g. dada, mimi | Do you have any concerns about how your child understands what you say?  
• Understands simple instructions i.e. ‘give me’  
• Sensitive to approval or disapproval  
• Knows and turns to own name | Do you have any concerns about how your child uses his or her hands and fingers to do things?  
• Bangs blocks together  
• Precise finger grasp - small objects - pincer  
• Points purposely with index finger  
• Uses both hands freely | Do you have any concerns about how your child uses his or her arms and legs?  
• Crawls  
• May stand alone  
• May walk alone  
• Can rise to sitting from lying down  
• Pulls to stand holding furniture | Do you have any concerns about how your child behaves?  
• Sensitive to approval/ disapproval  
• Reacts to music and moves | Do you have any concerns about how your child gets along with others?  
• enjoys cuddle  
• eye contact with carer  
• sensitive to approval or disapproval | Do you have any concerns about how your child is learning to do things for himself/herself?  
• helps with dressing - holds foot or arm out  
• holding spoon, but cannot use it yet | Do you have any concerns about how your child is learning preschool or school skills?  
• Opportunity to discuss - reading, talking, interacting and play | Please list any other concerns  
• Possible categories of concern - global, behavioural and language |

The Small red flags are alerts.  
See over for additional information.

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**MCH PEDS TIPSHEET** has been compiled to offer the MCH nurse some prompts, if necessary, for further discussion with parents, when completing the PEDS screen.  
This has been written in context to the developmental age on the tip sheet, and is  
To be used as a guide only, not exclusive.

Mary D. Sheridan. From Birth to Five Years, Children’s Developmental Progress
By 12 months typically developing infants are becoming more social and communicative with others. Infants who are later diagnosed with autism are beginning to show more problems with social interest and communication skills by 12 months. All children with autism have delayed and unusual language. Check for babble and any single words but also any odd language such a repetitive sounds or non speech noises. They may also ignore being called by name. Social problems such as insensitivity or lack of response to parents may be apparent. Also check whether baby plays with objects/toys in an unusual way.

In particular ask about:

**Social skills**
- Enjoys cuddles
- Eye contact with parent
- Sensitive to approval or disapproval

**Communication skills**
- Knows and turns to own name
- Multiple syllables and word babble e.g. dada, mimi

**Play and Behaviour**
- Repetitive motor behaviours such as spinning, rotating or visual exploration of objects/toys

If any of these 3 large red flags are identified, immediate referral to the GP with a view to a paediatric assessment is indicated.

- Does not babble or coo by 12 months of age
- Does not gesture (point, wave, grasp, etc.) by 12 months of age
- Has any loss of any language or social skill at any age.

Dr Avril Brereton and Kerry Bull 2011
Monash University Autism Secondary Consultation and Training Strategy ACT-NOW