

Developmental Screening Clinics

What is a Developmental Screening Clinic?

A Developmental Screening Clinic is a place parents can bring their child to check on how he or she is developing.

Why is it important for me to bring my child for screening?

Children learn many skills and experience many different things in early life. The first five years of life play an especially important role in preparing children for success at school and later in life. For this reason, it is important to make sure your child is developing well early in childhood.

What happens at a Developmental Screening Clinic?

The Developmental Screening Clinic is run by staff qualified in areas related to child development. Staff uses questionnaires to get a good picture of your child's development. For example, a document called *Red Flags* or *Ages and Stages* may be used to assess your child's development. Results indicate the strengths your child possesses, as well as areas that are in need of improvement.

When and where are the Developmental Screening Clinics held?

Developmental Screening Clinics are held across the District of Parry Sound monthly with the exception of July and August. The clinics are free of charge and are available for all children between 1 month and 5 ½ years.

What happens with the results of the screening?

Your child's results will be discussed with you and you will receive a copy. The results are not meant to diagnose or label your child in any way. They are meant to inform you of the areas in which your child is progressing well, as well as areas you may wish to keep an eye on. With your permission, results can be shared with your family doctor.

Do I have to pay for this?

No, Developmental Screening Clinics are free of charge for children between the ages of 1 month and 5 ½ years. The District of Parry Sound Best Start Network wants to help you provide the best possible start for your child.

Where can I get more information?

To get more information about the Developmental Screening Clinic, find a location in your area or to book an appointment, you can call 705-746-7777 or 1-800-461-4464 or visit www.foreverchild.ca.

