

Your Feedback

Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand Southern is committed to providing quality health care services and meeting the needs of the community.

We welcome your feedback.

Compliments are sincerely appreciated.

Complaints give us the opportunity to assess and improve the service we provide.

Suggestions are always welcomed.

Telephone **Quality Services** on 03 214 5738; internal extn 48738.

Whakataukī (Māori Proverb)

**Kia tu tahi tatou
Ko te kotahitanga te kaha
Mo tatou me nga uri kei muri**

Let us stand together
Unity is strength
For us and our children after us

We are here in
Therapy
Services

How to Contact us

Child Development Service

Phone: 03 218 1949; extn 48866

or contact

Child Development Service
Te Whatu Ora Southern
PO Box 828, Invercargill
03 214 5740

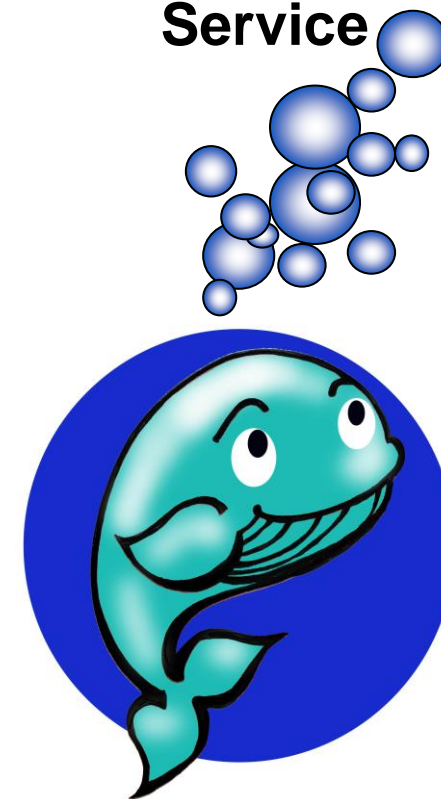
ChildDevelopmentSth@southerndhb.govt.nz

Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00am - 5.00pm

Your key worker is:



Ratoka Whakapuāwai Tamaiti Child Development Service



Screening Programme

What is Ratoka Whakapuāwai Tamaiti?

We are a team of professionals who provide a range of health and development services for children aged between 0 and 16 years, (with a focus on 0-5 years) and their whānau (families) in Southland.

Who is referred onto the screening programme?

- Babies born with very low birth weight or under 30 weeks gestation.
- Babies considered high risk for neurological or developmental difficulties.
- When your child's paediatrician recommends their development should be monitored.



At what age will my child be assessed?

- **32-35 and 40 weeks gestation**
- **12 weeks adjusted age**
- **16 weeks adjusted age**
- **9 months adjusted age**
- **18-24 months adjusted age**

Premature babies will be seen at their adjusted age.

Extra assessments may be necessary for some babies for a variety of reasons.

Some babies may be discharged at 18 months of age.

Correcting age for prematurity

Until they are two years old, we will work out your child's age from their expected birth date, not from the date they were actually born. This is called adjusted age.



General Movements Assessment (GMA)

- The General Movements Assessment is used from birth to 20 weeks of age (corrected for prematurity).
- It involves a video recording of baby's spontaneous movements.
- Movements are then analysed by a trained assessor and a formal report written at the 16 weeks assessment.
- This standardised assessment is used to help identify any neurological or developmental issues as early as possible.

What other assessments are used?

- Formal assessment of development including language, motor skills and cognition (thinking) skills.
- A standardised neurological assessment looking at posture, movements, reflexes and reactions.
- Developmental questionnaires looking at things such as feeding.

Who is involved in the screening assessment?

- A Ratoka Whakapuāwai Tamaiti assistant will video your baby for their first few assessments.
- A registered occupational therapist or physiotherapist from the team will conduct your baby's assessment from 16 weeks of age.
- Your child may also see a speech language therapist or social worker, depending on their needs.
- If you would like more information about the screening programme or have any questions about the assessments, feel free to contact one of our therapists.

Where will the assessment take place?

- Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).
- Your own home.
- A clinic-based assessment is preferred from two years of age.

Our Values

- The CDS team incorporates a whānau environment-centred care philosophy into all aspects of its clinical practice.
- At the heart of whānau-centred care is the belief that health care providers and the family are partners working **together** to best meet the needs of the child.
- Whanaungatanga – building relationships through cultural respect, connections and working in partnership with children, their families/whānau to provide truly person-centred care