

**Guidance for using the Levels of Development Reference Tool
to make Assessment Judgements linked to Age Related Expectations (ARE)**

This guidance has been created to support early years providers using the Levels of Development Reference Tool and the Individual or Group Progress Trackers. All children develop differently, you may not always be able to answer yes to every checkpoint so you will need to use an element of professional judgement and knowledge of the child through formative observations/assessments.

Checkpoint 'Best Fit' – The age related checkpoint where you can mostly answer yes or sometimes.

Please use the table below as a guide to help you:

Child's Actual Chronological Age	Checkpoint best fit	ARE Judgement
Between 12 months and 18 months	By around 2 years of age Around 18 months Around 12 months	Working at or above
	Around 6 months	Working towards
Between 18 months and 2 years	By around 2.5 to 3 years of age By around 2 years of age Around 18 months	Working at or above
	Around 12 months	Working towards
	Around 6 months	Working below
Between 2 years and 2.5 years	By around 2.5 to 3 years of age By around 2 years of age	Working at or above
	Around 18 months	Working towards
	Around 12 months	Working below
	Around 6 months	Working significantly below
Between 2.5 years and 3 years	Around 3-4 years of age By around 2.5 to 3 years	Working at or above
	By around 2 years of age	Working towards
	Around 18 months Around 12 months	Working below
	Around 6 months	Working significantly below
Between 3 and 4 years	Around 3-4 years of age	Working at or above
	By around 2.5 to 3 years of age	Working towards
	By around 2 years of age Around 18 months Around 12 months	Working below
	Around 6 months	Working significantly below