

Frequently Asked Questions about Screening

Frequently asked questions parents may ask BEFORE completing the ASQ-3 or ASQ:SE-2

I don't have time to do this. Can you do it? *These questionnaires were designed to be completed by parents because you know your child best. The information you share helps us know how to best support your child in the classroom and will be helpful for you at home too.*

You can continue with:

The ASQ:SE-2 *is quick and easy to complete. It should only take 10 minutes or so. You are the only one who can share how your child behaves at home. Is there any way I can help?*

The ASQ-3 *does take a little time to complete. If you could complete this short Overall section right now, I can get the questionnaire started. I'll check with you once I'm done to make sure you agree with my answers. Does that sound okay?*

What happens if my child fails? *This is not about passing or failing. These questionnaires help us know your child's areas of strength and areas we can support in the classroom. I can also give you some ideas of fun activities you can do in your home. Sometimes these tools point to areas where you may want to get more information from a developmental specialist or your child's doctor-but those decisions are completely up to you.*

Why do you want to do this with my child? Is something wrong? *No, we offer screening as a service to all our families enrolled in the School Readiness Program. These first five years are the time of the most rapid growth in a child's brain. It's helpful to do a quick check and make sure your child's development is on-schedule.*

Is this an IQ test? *No, this is only a screening. Screening lets us know if development is on-schedule. Screening also lets us know your child's strengths and areas to support at school and home.*

What are you going to do with this information? Who is going to see it? *This is up to you. The ELC has this information but it is very secure. We would never share information about your child with anyone or any agency without your permission.*

I don't want my child screened. *Okay, this decision is completely up to you. You can choose not to have your child screened in the Family Portal. If you change your mind or have concerns about your child's development or behavior let me know. You can opt back in at any time.*



Frequently asked questions parents may ask AFTER completing the ASQ-3 or ASQ:SE-2

Can I do another one? *We will give you the opportunity to screen your child once a year while your child is in the School Readiness Program. If you would like to do another one sooner, just let me know.*

Have you got any ideas for things I can do to help my child at home? *Yes, let's look at the activities together and see which ones would be fun for you to try.*

What are they (Early Steps/FDLRS) going to do? *After you call, they will schedule a time to meet with you and your child. They have specialists who can give you more information. They will gather more information about your child's development and let you know what to do next.*

How do I make a referral? *All you need to do is call. I have the number right here. (Heather) is the person you can talk to...I've met her and she's really helpful. We can call her right now.*

How much is Early Steps/FDLRS going to cost me? *Nothing at all, these are free services to all families.*

I'm not sending my child to special education. *I understand your concern. This decision is up to you. I'd like you to know that in many cases these services prevent children from needing special education in school. These programs want to encourage your child to reach their maximum potential and enter school ready to learn. But we don't know what is going on yet. Your child may have a health issue that needs attention. The next step is only to get more information. Would that be okay?*

I'm not worried. The doctor said he was doing fine and said he would catch up. *It's good to know his doctor feels he is healthy and doing well. One thing to keep in mind is that doctors do not spend much time with your child. It is hard for them to closely look at all the areas of a child's development. You know your child best and have shared your observations. What about making an appointment to share these results with your doctor?*

But my child is so young! *Yes, your child is still very young—but one thing that research has shown is that these first five years is when the brain develops the majority of neurons (pathways in the brain), and is most open to learning. It is one of the very best times to support your child's development!*