

Information Sheet for Healthcare Providers

The Healthy Start for School review

If a child is turning 3.5 years of age, they may need to have a health check for their family to be eligible for Family Tax Benefit (FTB) Part A supplement.

If a child requires a health check then Centrelink will send the parent/guardian a letter after the child turns 3.5 years of age. This will occur if either parents/guardians receive [FTB Part A](#) and an income support payment such as [Parenting Payment](#) or [Newstart Allowance](#), or a payment from the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

The Health check

The health check is an assessment of a child's physical health to ensure the child is healthy, fit and ready to learn when they start school. The health check should include; height, weight, hearing, sight and general wellbeing. A child can have a health check performed between the ages of 3 – 5 years.

What do practices need to do?

Provide an age appropriate health check as outlined in the Personal Health Record (red book), this can be billed as long consultation. Health assessment item numbers (701,703, 705, and 707) **cannot** be billed for a child health check. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island children can be billed under Medicare item 715.

What do parents need to do?

Arrange a health check with their GP

Parents need to contact their local General Practitioner to arrange a health check, it is recommended parents/guardians book a longer consultation for this health check.

Inform Centrelink the health check has been completed

To ensure families receive the FTB Part A supplement, the parent/guardian needs to notify Centrelink the health check has been completed. The easiest way for parents to notify Centrelink is by using their [Centrelink online account](#) through [myGov](#).

The following video provides further information on how parents can notify Centrelink online: <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/enablers/complete-your-healthy-start-school-review>

Tell Centrelink if the health check for their child cannot be completed

If there is a reason why a health check cannot be completed for a child, the parent/guardian should [contact](#) Centrelink as soon as possible to discuss.

