## Emerging Minds.

National Workforce Centre for Child Mental Health

## The CHILD domains as a tool for engagement

The information below sets out questions and areas to be curious about under each of the CHILD domains. You can use this information as a flexible tool at any stage of a mental health assessment. It offers a way to feel reassured that you haven't missed any important areas that impact on the child's social and emotional wellbeing. There is space for your notes on the next page.

Child	About the child The GP remains curious with the child and parent about the child's: - interests and activities - strengths and difficulties - physical and biological health (including illness and disability); and - temperament.
Home	<ul> <li>Home circumstances and context</li> <li>Questions to help the GP to remain curious with the child and parent: <ul> <li>'Does the child have any siblings?'</li> <li>'What are their names?'</li> <li>'What are the child's favourite activities at home?'</li> </ul> </li> <li>The GP remains curious with the parent about any other stresses at home, such as: <ul> <li>parental mental health issues</li> <li>parental substance use (alcohol, drugs, prescription medication and its side effects)</li> <li>conflict or violence; or</li> <li>other issues (e.g. physical health, housing, finances, legal issues, gambling, etc.).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Interactions	Interactions between the child and parent Questions to help the GP to remain curious with the child and parent: <ul> <li>'What activities do the child and parent enjoy together?'</li> <li>'What are the main challenges in the parent-child relationship?'</li> </ul> <li>The GP observes and notices the quality of the relationships, including signs of:         <ul> <li>attunement</li> <li>connection; and</li> <li>responsiveness</li> </ul> </li> <li>The GP remains curious with the parent about:         <ul> <li>the parent's emotions at the time</li> <li>the family's routines</li> <li>how they set and uphold boundaries</li> <li>how they show affection and encouragement</li> <li>how they engage in child-led play; and</li> <li>how they deal with difficult behaviours.</li> </ul> </li>
Links	<ul> <li>Links in the community</li> <li>The GP remains curious with the child and parent about the child's: <ul> <li>friends and family network</li> <li>enjoyment and engagement at their education and care setting; and</li> <li>involvement in any community groups or activities (e.g. playgroup, kindergym).</li> </ul> </li> <li>The GP remains curious with the parent about: <ul> <li>what support networks they have in place for the family; and</li> <li>what access to health and community services is available when needed.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
P	Development The GP remains curious with the child and parent about: - the child's developmental history, including pregnancy and birth - the child's developmental abilities (including their communication, physical, cognitive, play skills and activities of daily living) the shild's second amotional development, including regulation and interaction with otherward

- the child's social and emotional development, including regulation and interaction with others; and
- any behavioural concerns.

Development

	Your notes
Child	
	Your notes
Home	
	Your notes
Interactions	
Links	Your notes
	Your notes
Development	



