



Welcome to the Growing Up in New Zealand quarterly newsletter for May 2010, and and kia ora to those of you who have joined Growing Up since our last newsletter in January.

Growing Up – You’re part of it!

We have completed our recruitment and are thrilled to announce that we will be following 6xxx families that have agreed to take part in Growing Up in New Zealand. “We are incredibly grateful to all of the parents that will allow us to witness their child grow up,” says Dr Susan Morton, Research Director. “Each and every answer from each individual to each of our questions is so important to us. When that information is collected and added to that from all the participants it provides us with solid evidence about life in New Zealand for parents and children growing up today that we can present to those that make key decisions that affect our children’s development.” You’re decision to take part will help build a better New Zealand for future generations.

At nine months...

Your baby now loves to play games, is perhaps sleeping less and may even be starting to practice "walking" while holding on to furniture...

It’s also time for your nine-month Growing Up interview. If you haven’t already you will receive a phone call from one of our team in preparation for the 9-month interview around the time when your child is 9months old. The interview is a face-to-face interview (like the antenatal interview) that should take approximately 90 minutes of your precious time.

One of our mothers commented “I really enjoyed the nine month interview. I found that the questions were actually a refreshing break from all the day to day activity involved with raising four children and were a chance to reflect and revisit my values as a parent.”

Research results

We are excited because as we complete the recruitment of all our families we are getting ready to produce our first set of findings from the interviews before or around the time of your baby’s birth. We expect to be able to let you know some of those findings before the end of this year (2010) and you will be among the first to know what gems we find out! Please rest assured that your data is collected in such a way that you and your family will not be personally identified in this process.

Our contact with you over the first two years

Following is a detailed timetable until the babies are 2 years old, because this is the time that we'll contact you most often to learn about your children's very early development.

- Antenatal interview - in the last three months of pregnancy, at your home or a place that suits you
- Telephone call - six weeks after your baby is due. The call takes 5 minutes and we ask your baby's name, date of birth and a few other questions
- Telephone call - when your baby is 7 ½ months old to let you know we'll be contacting you to arrange the next interview
- 9-month interview - when your baby is about 9 months old. We will come to your home or a place that suits you to do the interview
- Telephone call - when your baby is about 16 months. The call will take about 5 minutes, and we'll ask how you and the baby are
- 2-year interview - when your baby is about 2 years old. We'll come to your house or another place that suits you

After that, we will see you and your children every 18 months or so.

As well as these calls and interviews, we'll be sending you a newsletter like this one, every three months or so.

One thing you might want to know is that partners who didn't want to join Growing Up at the beginning can still join the study later if they change their minds. Just give us a call and we can enrol them for the next interview onwards.

Visit www.youtube.com/researchworkswonders to learn more about Growing Up in New Zealand.

Questions, comments or to remove your name from our mailing list? E-mail us at contact@growingup.co.nz or call on 0508 476946

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