

Middle Primary School (Pre-pubescent) 7–9 years

Developmentally Appropriate	Developmentally Inappropriate	Concerning	Very Concerning	Serious/ Extreme
Masturbation or touching of own genitals in private. Increased sense of privacy and more care with regards to toileting and changing in private. Increased curiosity about other children's genitals of the same and opposite gender, which may translate into looking and touching of familiar same-age children's genitals. Language expression and jokes continue to include conversations about bottoms, breasts, vaginas, penises, and general bodily functions. Increased curiosity and questions about gender, sexuality, where babies come from and other sexual-based concepts. Children will also begin to discuss having girlfriends or boyfriends, and behaviour may extend into handholding or kissing another child of a similar age. Exposure to pornography via accidental or 'curious searching' (e.g., while searching 'bottoms')	Masturbation that occurs within an inappropriate context or location (e.g., a public space) or persists after redirection to a private space. Lack of awareness of the need for privacy and, therefore, frequent nudity around others or in inappropriate contexts. Using language of a sexually explicit nature that persists after redirection. Engaging other children of a similar age in sexual behaviours, including fondling. Displaying sexual themes and actions in play with other children, though the behaviour can be redirected and modified. Intentionally accessing pornography and/or playing video games with violent or sexual content.	Regular masturbation that interferes with other activities or that occurs with other children. Frequently exposing themselves in public or to other children. Engaging significantly younger or more vulnerable children in sexualised behaviour. Invading other children or adults' private space to lift or move their clothing to see and/or touch their genitals, bottoms, or breasts. Using language of a sexually explicit nature and/or including sexual themes in play or when interacting with others (such as open mouth kissing and fondling). Frequently watching pornography.	Compulsive masturbation that interferes with other activities, and/or is aggressive and/or self-injurious. Pursuing other children in an intimidating and/or aggressive manner in order to touch their genitals, bottoms or breasts or engage them in sexualised behaviour. Using language of a highly sexually explicit nature and/or simulating sexually explicit acts in or out of play such as oral sex and anal or vaginal penetration. Frequently watching pornography to the exclusion of other activities.	Forcing other children to engage in sexual behaviour; may include force and include oral sex and penetration with objects. Persistently using language of a highly sexual and explicit nature. Taking photos of their or others' genitals (or generally sexual images) and sharing these with others. Frequently watching and showing other children pornography.