

Pathways for ADHD/Autism Assessment

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Bassetlaw

(based on GP surgery location)



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Neurodevelopmental Referral Pathway for Children and Young People

Bassetlaw General Developmental Assessment Pathway (GDA)



Find out more about support at:
[APTCCO in Bassetlaw](#)

Please scan here for alternative language options
for the information in this leaflet



1

FOR CONCERNS REGARDING SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTAL DELAYS, MEDICAL CONDITIONS, OR MEDICATION REVIEWS ONLY.

Please contact your GP for advice and support. Your GP may refer your child to the Community Paediatrician for an assessment if priority concerns are identified as above.

2

FOR CONCERNS OF AUTISM AND/OR ADHD – SUPPORT INTERVENTIONS AND THE GRADUATED RESPONSE.

If you do not have any of the concerns mentioned above at step 1, please follow the [Graduated Response](#) process prior to making a referral for an assessment. The graduated response process will be supported by professionals such as your Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) lead, teacher and/or the [Healthy Families Team](#).

Talk with your child's teacher about options for making reasonable adjustments in school for your child. These adjustments can help meet their individual needs and make school feel more accessible and comfortable. More information and support regarding reasonable adjustments can also be provided by the [APTCCO in Bassetlaw](#) Family Support Team.

Please note, a diagnosis is not required for reasonable adjustments to be put in place to support your child's needs within their education setting.

[APTCCO in Bassetlaw](#) Family Support Team will assist you through the graduated response process by providing information, advice, support and access to one-to-one and small group family workshops.

Each workshop is delivered within our SEND Family Hub, a safe, friendly and accessible space. They are facilitated by experienced and trained SEND practitioners who utilise professional evidence-based theories matched to individual family needs including [Anna Freud Reflective Parenting](#); an approach to parenting that aims to develop a better understanding of your child's emotions and behaviours, wrapped around [PACE Principles](#) – how to connect and communicate with your child with a sense of security and attachment.

A referral to APTCCO can be made by either your GP/Health Care Professional/Educational lead or alternatively you can refer direct by e-mail at enquiries@aptcoo.org or phone 01623 629 902.



2

CONT

FOR CONCERNS OF AUTISM AND/OR ADHD - SUPPORT INTERVENTIONS AND THE GRADUATED RESPONSE CONT....

More information can be found regarding the graduated response and support interventions below:

Healthy Families Team - [Healthy Families Team](#)

Emotional Health Support Services - [Nottshelpyourself](#)

The Family Service - [The family service | Nottinghamshire County Council](#)

Children's Centre Family Hub - [Parenting and family support](#)

Send Local Offer General Information - [Nottshelpyourself | SEND Local Offer](#)

Local Guide for Children & Young People with SEND - [Nottshelpyourself | SEND Local Offer](#)



3

AUTISM AND/OR ADHD ASSESSMENT – THE GENERAL DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT PATHWAY (GDA)

Once the support intervention's and [Graduated Response](#) approach have been followed, and if an assessment need is identified, your child's education lead or the [Healthy Families Team](#) may refer your child to the GDA pathway. This may lead to assessment with a Community Paediatrician for Autism and/or ADHD.

Information about the GDA pathway process and what to expect can be found here [GDA Pathway](#)

4

INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE AT THIS TIME TO SUGGEST FURTHER ASSESSMENT IS REQUIRED FOR AUTISM AND/OR ADHD

If the need for an Autism and/or ADHD assessment is not identified following referral to the [GDA Pathway](#) you will be offered support and advice based on your child's individual needs; this support is not subject to receiving a diagnosis.

You will also be signposted to the appropriate local and national support organisations.

Your referral will be closed to the GDA Pathway once support and advice has been offered.



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Neurodevelopmental Referral Pathway for Children and Young People – Behavioural and Emotional Health Team (BEH Team)



Nottingham City Tel:0115 8761716



FOR CONCERNS REGARDING SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTAL DELAYS, MEDICAL CONDITIONS, OR MEDICATION REVIEWS



Contact your GP for advice and support. Your GP may refer your child to the Community Paediatrician for an assessment. Information about the role of the Community Paediatrician can be found [Community Paediatrician](#)



FOR INDICATIONS OF AUTISM AND/OR ADHD – GRADUATED RESPONSE

If you do not have any of the concerns mentioned above at step 1 you may wish to make a referral to the BEH Team for an assessment. Before doing so, please follow the graduated response process via your health visitor or the [SEND graduated response](#) through your child's education setting. For the pre-assessment support offer for ADHD please complete our [referral form](#).

Additional support information also in the link here [support information](#)

Please note – referrals can only be accepted once the graduated response and pre-assessment support offer has been followed.

Please note - a diagnosis is not required for reasonable adjustments to be put in place to support your child's needs within their education setting.



REFERRAL TO THE BEH TEAM



Once step 2 above has been followed, a referral can then be made to the BEH Team by either your GP, Health Care Professional, Educational Senco Lead or alternatively a self-referral can be made.

The BEH referral form and information can be found here www.asklion.co.uk

Confirmation that your referral has been received will be sent to you along with pre-assessment support and advice information.



4

AUTISM AND/OR ADHD SCREENING ASSESSMENT

A screening assessment will be undertaken by the BEH Team for indicative behaviours of Autism and/or ADHD. Further interventions may also be recommended at this stage prior to step 4a.



4a

SCREENING ASSESSMENT IDENTIFIED NEED FOR REVIEW WITH COMMUNITY PAEDIATRICS SERVICE

Your child's referral will be discussed with the Community Paediatrics Team.

If accepted your child will be placed on the Community Paediatric wait list for further assessment and closed to the BEH Team.

If not accepted, you/the referrer, will be informed of the outcome and sign posted as at step 6 below.

OR

5

FURTHER ASSESSMENT OR INFORMATION REQUIRED

Your child's referral remains open for further assessment and information gathering.

This may include discussions with professionals such as CAMHS, speech & language therapy along with observations in school/nursery and/or face-to-face assessments.

Where the assessment outcome indicates the need for a review with the Community Paediatrics Service, please see step 4a

OR
6

INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO RECOMMEND FURTHER ASSESSMENT FOR AUTISM AND/OR ADHD AT THIS TIME.

You will be offered support and advice based on your child's individual needs; this support is not subject to receiving a diagnosis. You will also be signposted to the appropriate local and national support organisations. Your referral will be closed to the BEH Team once support and advice has been provided.



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Find out more at:
[Ask Lion - Behavioural and Emotional Health](#)

Scan here for this information in alternative language options



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Neurodevelopmental Referral Pathway for Children and Young People – Family Services, Neurodevelopmental Support Team (NST)

Nottingham County Tel: 0300 500 80 80



Scan here for other language options



1

FOR CONCERNS REGARDING SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTAL DELAYS, MEDICAL CONDITIONS, OR MEDICATION REVIEWS

Please contact your GP for advice and support. Your GP may refer your child to the Community Paediatrician for an assessment if priority concerns are identified as above.



Information about the role of the Community Paediatrician can be found here [Information regarding Community Paediatrician services](#)

2

FOR CONCERNS OF AUTISM AND/OR ADHD – GRADUATED RESPONSE

If you do not have any of the concerns mentioned above at step 1, please follow the graduated response process via either the healthy families team or the [SEND graduated response](#) through your child's education setting.

If you need any help or support relating to the graduated response, please contact the NST enquiry email at family servicenst@nottscc.gov.uk or alternatively contact Ask Us Nottinghamshire [AskUsNotts](#) or <https://www.nottshelpyourself.org.uk/>

Please note - a diagnosis is not required for reasonable adjustments to be put in place to support your child's needs within their education setting.

Please see links below to the NST parental support programmes



[ADHD Workshop NST-opt-in](#) – For parents of a child with an ADHD diagnosis and those with ADHD type behaviours without diagnosis.

[Cygnet NST-opt-in](#)- For parents and carers of autistic children and young people aged 5-18, and those with autistic behaviours without diagnosis.

[Education Transition NST-opt-in](#) - The Education Transition Support Workshop is for parents and carers to learn strategies to assist their children and young people with transitions in education.

[Sleep Tight Programme NST-opt-in](#) - The Sleep Tight programme aims to support parents and carers to help their children and young people to achieve a better night's sleep

[Parent Workshop NST-opt-in](#) - A local model of support and information for parents and carers

3

REFERRAL TO THE NST TEAM

Once step 2 has been followed and if it is considered an assessment need remains following the graduated response process, your child's education lead or other professional supporting your family will be required to complete a referral form through the **MOSAIC Portal**. Usually, your child's education lead will complete this with you, however this could occasionally involve the support of a health care professional such as the healthy family team (but excluding your GP).

The referral must be made by a professional such as your child's educational lead, or healthcare professional. The completed online referral form will be sent to the NST team with your child's referral details to ensure they have as much information as possible regarding your child's needs.

You will receive confirmation that your referral has been received from the NST Team along with pre-assessment support information and advice.

For any referral related queries please contact referralsnst.familyservice@nottscg.gov.uk or Tel: 0300 500 80 80



4

NST TEAM TRIAGE AND ASSESSMENT

Your referral will then be reviewed by the NST Team for behaviours in common with Autism and/or ADHD. Further interventions may also be recommended at this stage or more information may be requested prior to step 5 to support the assessment process

5

ASSESSMENT IDENTIFIED NEED FOR REFERRAL TO THE COMMUNITY PAEDIATRICIAN

If the NST Team identify behaviours in common with Autism and/or ADHD, your child's referral will be placed on the Community Paediatricians wait list for further assessment and closed to the NST Team .

If your referral is not accepted by the Community Paediatrician, you will be informed of the outcome reasons and sign posted as at step 6 below



6

INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE AT THIS TIME TO SUGGEST FURTHER ASSESSMENT IS REQUIRED FOR AUTISM AND/OR ADHD

You will be offered support and advice based on your child's individual needs; this support is not subject to receiving a diagnosis. You will also be signposted to the appropriate local and national support organisations. Your referral will be closed to the NST Team once support and advice has been offered.

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Community Paediatrics Teams

Nottingham City and Nottingham County



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Autism/ADHD Referral Pathway for Children & Young People - Community Paediatrics Team South Nottingham County & Nottingham City



1

REFERRAL TO THE COMMUNITY PAEDIATRICIAN – WHAT TO EXPECT

Once the Community Paediatrician has received your referral, your child will be placed on the wait list where you will be offered an appointment in writing. The waitlist is currently approx. 6 months, but this is subject to change.

Please scan here for information about the role of the Community Paediatrician



2

INITIAL APPOINTMENT WITH THE COMMUNITY PAEDIATRICIAN NEURODEVELOPMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Every child/young person is assessed according to their individual need.

The Community Paediatrician will meet with you and your child to understand their assessment needs. This appointment will usually include a physical examination, a review of your child's medical/family history and developmental milestones.

This appointment will determine what further assessment your child needs i.e. ADHD/Autism assessment. If no assessment is required, your child will be discharged, or an open appointment will be offered.



3

ADHD ASSESSMENT

If your child has been referred for an ADHD assessment, they may be given a diagnosis at their first appointment, however, further tests or information gathering may be required to determine a diagnosis. If this is the case, a further follow up assessment appointment will then be offered to consider a diagnosis.

If a diagnosis of ADHD is given, you/your child will be signposted to post diagnosis ADHD support.

Medication options will also be considered and discussed if appropriate. Your child's medication can only be supervised by a specialist paediatrician. In some cases, your GP may be able to prescribe ADHD medication if they have what is called a "shared care agreement", which means your Community Paediatrician will retain oversight of your child's medication, but your GP can issue your child's prescription.



AND/OR

4

AUTISM ASSESSMENT

Occasionally, autism may be diagnosed at the first appointment, if so a follow up appointment for information and advice will be offered. You will also be signposted to the appropriate local and national support organisations.

You will receive a report about your child's diagnosis, this will also be sent to your child's GP and education setting to support your child's educational needs. You will only be offered an ongoing follow appointment if your child has related medical needs. If there are no further medical needs or assessment requirements, your child will be discharged.



4a

FURTHER ASSESSMENT REQUIRED FOR AN AUTISM DIAGNOSIS

Further assessment/monitoring may be required to determine a diagnosis of autism (this may include a further two or three appointments (approx. 1 hour each appointment) dependant on your child's individual needs.

The Community Paediatrician may want to gain further relevant information from you about your child to help with the assessment. There may also be a play-based session or discussion with your child if they are older.

Interventions/onward referral to other services may be required at this stage to gather further supporting evidence, for example information may be required from school/nursery etc to support the diagnosis process. Alternatively, the Community Paediatrician may need to take a watch and wait approach if a diagnosis is not clear at this point (a further appointment will be offered in this case for a later date to re-assess)

OR
5

UNCERTAINTY REMAINS REGARDING AN AUTISM DIAGNOSIS

Your child will be kept under review and/or reviewed jointly with other medical professionals such as a Speech & Language Therapist, CAMHS & Community Paediatrician for further recommendations and a second opinion.

Your child may also be referred to what is known as the complex communication clinic where there remains doubt about a diagnosis or where a second opinion is sought by either you or the Community Paediatrician.



6

AUTISM/ADHD NOT DIAGNOSED

Other possible co-existing conditions will be considered, and your child will be referred to the appropriate service dependant on need, along with signposting to the appropriate local and national support organisations.

Your child will be discharged by the Community Paediatrician.

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Community Paediatrics Teams

Sherwood Forest Hospital



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Autism/ADHD Referral Pathway for Children & Young People - Community Paediatrics Team

Sherwood Forest Hospital

1

REFERRAL TO THE COMMUNITY PAEDIATRICIAN – WHAT TO EXPECT

Your child's referral will be triaged by the Community Paediatrician to ensure it is appropriate an assessment to take place. If accepted, your child will be placed on the wait list where you will be offered an appointment in writing. The waitlist is currently approx. 3 months, but this is subject to change.

Please scan here for information about the role of the Community Paediatrician



2

FIRST NEURODEVELOPMENTAL ASSESSMENT APPOINTMENT

Every child/young person is assessed according to their individual need.

The Community Paediatrician will meet with you and your child to understand their assessment needs. This appointment will usually include a physical examination, a review of your child's medical/family history and developmental milestones.

This appointment will determine what further assessment your child needs i.e. ADHD/Autism assessment. If no assessment is required, and your child has no other medical needs, they will be discharged, or an open appointment will be offered (an open appointment means you can request a further appointment based on your child's symptoms and individual needs).



3

ADHD ASSESSMENT

For referrals related to ADHD, occasionally a diagnosis may be given at the first appointment.

If no diagnosis can be given, further tests or information gathering may be required to determine a diagnosis, dependant on assessment need. A further follow up appointment will then be offered to consider a diagnosis.

ADHD ASSESSMENT (if diagnosis confirmed)

If a diagnosis is confirmed, a report will be issued to you, your GP and educational setting to support your child's needs.

An appointment with the Specialist Nursing Team will be offered to provide information and advice, along with signposting to post diagnosis support to the appropriate local and national support organisations.

If medication is prescribed, regular ongoing follow up appointments will be arranged. If your child does not require medication, they will be discharged but can be referred back into the service if their medical needs change over time.





AND/OR
4

AUTISM ASSESSMENT

Autism may be diagnosed at the first appointment (in a very small number of cases). Whenever a diagnosis is made, a follow up appointment with the Specialist Nurse Team will be arranged for information and advice, signposting to post diagnosis support to the appropriate local and national support organisations will also be provided.

You will receive a diagnosis report and a copy will also be sent to your child's GP and education setting to help support their needs. Your child will then be discharged.

If your child has related medical needs, they will be offered further ongoing appointments.

4a

FURTHER ASSESSMENT REQUIRED FOR AN AUTISM DIAGNOSIS

Further assessment/monitoring may be required to determine a diagnosis of autism (this may include a further number of appointments (between 30mins - 1 hour each appointment) dependant on your child's individual needs.

The Community Paediatrician may want to gain further information from you about your child to help with the assessment. Your child may require a direct observation of their behaviour, this may be through an observational assessment in a clinic, or school setting dependant on need (this may be with the Community Paediatrician or another trained member of the team e.g. Specialist Nurse)

Onward referral to other services may be required at this stage to gather further supporting evidence, for example information may be required from school/nursery etc to support the diagnosis process. Alternatively, the Community Paediatrician may need to take a watch and wait approach if your child is not displaying behaviours of autism at this point (a further appointment will be offered in this case for a later date to re-assess)

OR
5

UNCERTAINTY REMAINS REGARDING AN AUTISM DIAGNOSIS

Your child may be kept under review and further information gathered when there is doubt about a diagnosis or a second opinion is sought. Your child's referral may be discussed at a monthly joint professional meeting. The outcome of this may include a joint appointment with the speech and language therapist, further information gathering, a referral/discussion with other services, or conclusion of either a diagnosis or non-diagnosis.



6

AUTISM/ADHD NOT DIAGNOSED

Where a diagnosis is not made, there may still be behaviours in common with neurodevelopmental conditions, but these are: not sufficient to meet the agreed diagnostic criteria; there may be other co-existing conditions, or reasons why your child is demonstrating these behaviours. A letter or report will be sent to you detailing the outcome of the assessment, along with signposting to the appropriate local and national support organisations and/or referral to the appropriate services.

Your child will be discharged by the Community Paediatrician.



Referral pathway for adults

(All GP locations)



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Neurodevelopmental Referral Pathway for Adults Neurodevelopmental Specialist Service – NeSS Nottingham City, Nottinghamshire County and Bassetlaw



Please scan here for this leaflet in other languages



STEP 1 - FOR CONCERNS ABOUT POSSIBLE AUTISM AND/OR ADHD

If you think you may be autistic or have ADHD, talk to your GP, primary care team, or mental health team about any lifelong symptoms and how these impact on your daily life (such as difficulties managing your home, relationships, work or education).

If a formal assessment is needed, your GP or healthcare professional can refer you to the [Neurodevelopmental Specialist Service \(NeSS\)](#).



STEP 2 - FOR CONCERNS ABOUT POSSIBLE INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY OR MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS

If you have intellectual disability (also known as learning disability) – you will need to be referred to the [Intellectual Disability Service](#).

If you are currently struggling with your mental health, it may be appropriate to refer you to your [Local Mental Health Team \(LMHT\)](#). Your GP can make this referral for you.

STEP 3 - AUTISM AND/OR ADHD DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENT



Once your GP or healthcare professional has made a referral, this will be screened by the clinical team at the [Neurodevelopmental Specialist Service \(NeSS\)](#). If it is accepted, you will be put on a waiting list.

While you are waiting for your assessment, you can find support from the services below. For example, mental health, social care, education and employment specific support – further information and advice can be found here:

- [Nottinghamshire County Social Care](#)
- [Nottingham City Social Care](#)
- [autisticnottingham.org](#)
- [Making Sense - Adult Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder \(ADHD\)](#)
- [Making-sense-resources Autism & ADHD](#)
- [ADHD Support Group - www.asklion.co.uk](#)

Further support and information can also be found at [Neurodevelopmental Specialist Service \(NeSS\)](#).

STEP 4 - IF AN AUTISM AND/OR ADHD ASSESSMENT IS NOT APPROPRIATE FOR YOU



If your GP or healthcare professional does not feel a neurodevelopmental assessment is appropriate, they will talk to you about other support that is available.

If after referral to NeSS, you have not been accepted onto the waiting list for a neurodevelopmental assessment, you can talk to your GP or healthcare professional about other support that is available.