

# Our Single Point of Access for Autism and ADHD

At Sheffield Children's, we've taken steps to improve our autism and ADHD services. Whether it's before, during or after an assessment, or signposting to the many resources available here and beyond, we're here to help and support children and young people who are neurodiverse.

## WHAT IS AUTISM?

Autism is a lifelong condition that affects how people communicate and how they process information. An autistic child or young person may see and understand the world differently. They may also have specific and passionate interests, can have unusual reactions to sensory input like smells, sensations or sounds, and they may find change or unfamiliar situations difficult.



## WHAT IS ADHD?

ADHD is characterised by symptoms of hyperactivity, impulsivity and inattention. For a diagnosis these key symptoms must be getting in the way of both home and school life.

## THE SINGLE POINT OF ACCESS

All referrals will go to the Single Point of Access

Parents and schools to complete questionnaires

Multi-disciplinary team decide the best pathway to assess your child

## AT ASSESSMENT



The aim of your assessment appointment is to identify whether your child fits the diagnostic criteria for autism or ADHD. Your child will either be assessed by the Child Development and Neurodisability Service (known locally as the 'Ryegate team') or Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (known as CAMHS). All assessments use the questionnaires and information already gathered as well as further conversations, histories and observations, depending on your child's age and needs.

## AFTER ASSESSMENTS

There are different possible outcomes from any assessment. Your child may be diagnosed with autism and/or ADHD or need further assessment for other conditions or be given a different diagnosis. If your child receives a diagnosis for autism you may find the support and resources on our website useful. You can access the site using the QR code or link below.



we care

