

## Diagnostic pathway for children 0-5 years - Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

**You can talk to anyone in Universal Services about your child, including GPs, health visitors, schools, nurses, speech and language therapy, children's centres**

**Still concerned? You or any professional can contact the Single Point of Access (SPA) on 020 8891 7969 for advice (out of hours call 020 8744 2442)**

A decision on whether an assessment is required will be communicated within 48 hours. Referral will be passed to appropriate services depending on age and needs identified

### Child Development Team

### Social Communication Clinic

**Developmental assessment**  
Community paediatrician with input from a range of professionals, including speech and language therapy service makes assessment  
**Covers:** developmental history, social interaction, cognitive functioning and co-morbidities

If a **Social Communication Clinic** assessment is identified following paediatric assessment, you will receive information about what will happen and what you can do to support your child in the meantime  
You will also receive information about other support services (eg, parent support groups or parenting courses, etc)

- Decide if further assessment if required
- ASD diagnosis confirmed
- Not ASD

**Multi-professional joint assessment**  
Involving 2-3 professionals. Includes: ASD specific history, observation, social communication assessment and ADOS (a play-based assessment)

**Multi-professional joint assessment for complex cases**  
Involving 3-4 professionals. Includes: developmental history, observation, and ADOS, with other assessments as needed for children with one or more additional presenting needs

- Decide if further assessment is required
- ASD diagnosis confirmed
- Not ASD

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- Not ASD

If decision is 'Not ASD' feedback and advice is provided to parents or carers regarding other universal services or support. Second opinion may be requested by the parents or carers

**Feedback offered and support plan agreed with parents or carers**  
Report and recommendations for a range of options, including details of the local user group, parenting group and options on medications

- Primary health care (GP)
- Home-based support
- Nursery or school support
- Voluntary/independent sector
- Learning Disabilities Team