

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES



ADDvanced Solutions
Supporting you to find the answers

How is Autism Diagnosed?

Liverpool has a single point of entry for all children and young people for assessment for neurodevelopmental conditions. You may be referred by your GP, your child's nursery or school or by another person working with your family who feels an assessment may be appropriate.

From here your child will be invited to a triage by a neurodevelopmental practitioner at Alder Hey children's hospital, who will decide whether to take the assessment further, or to direct you to more suitable services.

When these observations and assessments have been completed your child will be referred to either the ADHD clinic or the ASD clinic. The ASD clinic is tri-partite – this refers to the need for input from three professionals; a paediatrician, a speech and language therapist and an educational psychologist. They may see your child together but it's possible that these assessments will occur separately, and a final decision on a diagnosis will be made when all three assessments are completed.

Assessment is based on the DSM-5 diagnostic criteria, and will involve information provided by the family, the school or nursery setting, and the three clinicians in the team assessing your child, as well as any other reports or assessments that have been carried out. Sensory issues, if they are a factor, will also be considered.

At the end of this process you should be given a diagnostic report, including the diagnostician's findings, recommendations for support and if appropriate, your child may receive a diagnosis.

Throughout this process you will have access to support for you and your family from ADDvanced Solutions through their Community Network groups, solution focused drop-in sessions, six week Neurodevelopmental Pathway family learning programmes, young peoples' groups, sibling groups and children's groups. This can be a stressful and emotional time for you and your family, and it's important to know that you aren't alone.

Click on the link below for more information about the support available to you and your families through the NHS Liverpool CCG Neurodevelopmental partnership including the offer from ADDvanced Solutions.

www.addvancedsolutions.co.uk

Telephone: 0151 486 1788 Email: info@addvancedsolutions.co.uk

Registered office: 54 St James Street, Liverpool, L1 0AB

Community Network Office: Business First Centre, 23 Goodlass Road, Speke, L24 9HJ.