



York and Scarborough
Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Pre 5's Autism Multi-Disciplinary Assessment (A.M.D.A.)

Information for patients, relatives and carers

① For more information, please contact:

Child Development Centre

York Hospital

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Email: yhs-tr.ChildHealthAdmin@nhs.net

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The Pre 5's A.M.D.A. Team assesses children with social, communication and interaction differences up to the age of five years old.

Why is my child being offered this assessment?

Your child is being offered an assessment due to differences in their presentation of social interaction skills, speech, language and flexible thinking / behaviour.

Who is part of the assessment team?

The core team includes the following professionals:

- Consultant Community Paediatrician
- Specialist Speech and Language Therapist

What does the team do?

The Pre 5's A.M.D.A. completes a detailed assessment of each young person looking at:

- Their social communication skills
- How they interact with others
- Their social imagination and play
- How they behave and respond in different situations
- Self-expression behaviours and daily routines
- What they are interested in (and to what extent)
- What they do well
- What they find difficult

Before the assessment process begins, the consultant community paediatrician will have asked you and your child's school to complete and return a detailed questionnaire which will be used in your child's assessment.

What happens in the assessment?

The assessment takes place over a number of weeks as follows:

Intake Meeting:

The team reviews the referral information and decides if it is appropriate for your child to be referred for an Autism Assessment at this point in time.

Observations & Assessments:

Team members will visit your child's school to watch them. There will also be clinic appointments to attend, where team members carry out their individual assessments with your child.

Outcome Meeting:

Following your child's assessment, the team only will meet to discuss their assessment findings and reach a decision as to the outcome of the assessment.

A feedback meeting will be arranged to inform you about the outcome.

What happens once the assessment is complete?

After the feedback meeting you will be sent a letter outlining:

- the outcome of the assessment
- the next steps in your child's care

Any advice from speech and language will be shared with your child's educational setting and any other professionals involved with them.

If the team think other services could help your child, they will talk to you about this and make a referral to services they feel could help.

Your opinion matters

When the feedback letter is sent to you, a questionnaire to give feedback on your experience of the service will also be sent. This helps us to know what we are doing well and what we could do better.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

If you have any questions at any stage of your child's assessment, please contact us. Our contact details are on the front cover of this leaflet.

Tell us what you think of this leaflet

We hope that you found this leaflet helpful. If you would like to tell us what you think, please contact:

Child Development Centre, York Hospital, Wigginton Road, York, YO31 8HE, telephone: 01904 726539 or email yhs-tr.ChildHealthAdmin@nhs.net.

Teaching, training and research

Our Trust is committed to teaching, training and research to support the development of health and healthcare in our community. Healthcare students may observe consultations for this purpose. You can opt out if you do not want students to observe. We may also ask you if you would like to be involved in our research.

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

PALS offers impartial advice and assistance to patients, their relatives, friends and carers. We can listen to feedback (positive or negative), answer questions and help resolve any concerns about Trust services.

PALS can be contacted on 01904 726262, or email yhs-tr.patientexperienceteam@nhs.net.

An answer phone is available out of hours.

Leaflets in alternative languages or formats

If you would like this information in a different format, including braille or easy read, or translated into a different language, please speak to a member of staff in the ward or department providing your care.

Patient Information Leaflets can be accessed via the Trust's Patient Information Leaflet website:

www.yorkhospitals.nhs.uk/your-visit/patient-information-leaflets/

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