



Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA) Assessment and Diagnostic Service

Fees & Charges

Initial zoom / telephone conversation by Dr White, Dr Hashemi or Ms. Howell

No cost.

Full assessment of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD or social communication difficulties) with a PDA component

Please note that although we are being asked to do an autism and PDA assessment it is possible that we consider that your child's behaviours or presentation does not reach DSM-V criteria for an autism spectrum disorder (ASD). This is not unusual as there are many overlapping conditions that can present with similar behaviours to ASD, for example, ADHD, Dyspraxia, Speech and Language Delay or Disorder, Sensory Processing Issues, psychological issues (depression, anxiety or OCD) or Intellectual Disability.

The pre-assessment telephone conversation will help to determine whether or not a full autism and PDA assessment would be helpful. If this assessment is deemed to be appropriate, we will send you a school questionnaire that we ask you give to the school SENCO or your child's teacher, to be completed by them and either emailed back to us or brought by you to the assessment appointment. It may be useful for the team to review all previous clinical / educational / social care reports.

- Please note that the in-depth assessment is lengthy, approximately 4.5 hours long and will take place with three highly experienced multi-disciplinary clinicians.
- The first professional will undertake a direct standardised play and conversation-based assessment (ADOS-2) with your child. This assessment is always face to face.
- The second professional completes a developmental and mental health history and a specialist standardised interview (ADI-R). This assessment is usually face to face.
- The third professional completes the PDA assessment. This usually takes place remotely.
- Once the assessments are completed, we will have at least a 30-minute break where all the professionals will have the opportunity to analyse all of the information including that from the school and any questionnaires that we need you or the young person to complete.
- Verbal feedback from all three professionals will then be given to you with a plan.
- A comprehensive report including full recommendations and resources will follow within 30 days.
- In addition, we always offer a remote report feedback meeting once you have had an opportunity to read the report.



Total fee for the Autism and Pathological Demand Avoidance assessment: £2800

In very unusual circumstances if we deem the case to be particularly complex and the young person presents with more complex difficulties, such as additional significant mental health issues, the fee is likely to be higher to reflect the greater time, skill and knowledge that this requires. This is usually ascertained by the clinician during the initial consultation and you will be advised at that stage.

It is also possible that we may not be able to give an immediate opinion and your child may require further assessment. This, for example, could be an observation of your child in the school setting (social context) or a cognitive assessment (to rule of an intellectual disability or learning difficulties). The fees for these assessments are listed below.



Additional assessments are sometimes necessary to complete the autism/social communication assessment

1. SCHOOL OBSERVATION

A school observation will enable us to see your child in a more naturalistic setting including interactions with their peers in the classroom and the playground. With your permission we would also talk to the staff who know your child best to build a systematic picture of your child to add to the formal Autism assessment already completed.

The additional cost of a school visit and write up in the report of the visit when part of an autism assessment is: £450

2. COGNITIVE PROFILE/ INTELLECTUAL ABILITY/DISABILITY ASSESSMENTS

Cognitive assessments are often used with children who are experiencing learning or school-based difficulties. It is a formal assessment or test of your child's intelligence and abilities in areas such as verbal and non-verbal skills, memory and speed of processing information giving a profile of the child's cognitive processing strengths and weaknesses.

Types of Cognitive Assessments:

The type of assessment used will depend on your child's age:

- Ages 4 to 7 years and 3 months: WPPSI-IV, Wechsler Preschool & Primary Scale of Intelligence
- Ages 6 to 16 years 11 months: WISC-V Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children
- Ages 16 years onwards: WAIS-IV, Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale

The additional cost of a cognitive assessment and comprehensive cognitive report when part of an autism assessment: £650

Post assessment appointments

SCHOOL FEEDBACK

This can be arranged if you would like one of the Autism Specialists to attend a school meeting with you following the Autism assessment. This could be for a number of reasons, for example, to discuss the diagnosis in detail and its implications, behaviour management, social skills training or supporting the school with giving your child a differential curriculum.

The additional cost of a school consultation when part of an autism assessment: £150 per hour



Payment

We require 50% of the fee to be made 7 days prior to an appointment via bank transfer.

If payment is not received, email or telephone reminders will be sent. Unfortunately, we cannot commence an assessment unless the required fee has been made in advance.

Final payment of invoice should be made within 7 days of the verbal feedback following your child's assessment. We will complete reports within 30 days of the assessment appointment, followed by a zoom meeting. The final report will then be distributed.

Policy for cancellations and missed appointments

If an appointment has to be cancelled, please let us know as soon as possible. The following policy applies to cancelled or missed appointments:

- Cancelled with 48 hours notice: No charge
- Cancelled with 24 hours notice: 50% charge
- Cancelled with less than 24 notice: Full charge applies