

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Assessment

The Access Pathway panel recommended that your child is referred for an assessment of possible Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). This assessment is undertaken by Young Minds Matter (YMM) based at Freshney Green Primary Care Centre. YMM can be contacted directly on (01472) 252570.

Once the referral is received, you will be contacted for consent to contact your child's school or college to gather information for their assessment.

What is involved in the assessment?

For the child's parents/carers, the assessment usually takes place over two appointments, each lasting approximately 60-90 minutes. At the first visit you will meet with a Specialist Nurse, Clinical Psychologist, or Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, and this person will lead on the assessment. They will discuss with you whether you have any concerns, and ask questions regarding your child's development, behaviour, school progress and family. We may also support your child to fill in a questionnaire regarding their behaviour, friendships and emotions if this is appropriate. This appointment is currently being conducted virtually due to COVID-19 restrictions.

At the second appointment your lead practitioner for the assessment will ask you further, more detailed questions regarding ADHD symptoms. This appointment is currently being conducted virtually due to COVID-19 restrictions and your child does not need to be present.

Face to face observations of your child will be completed as required. For some children an observation of them at school to gather further information may be required; and some children may require a cognitive assessment as part of their assessment. What is required for your child's assessment will be discussed with you as the assessment progresses.

When do I find out if my child has ADHD?

We try to complete the assessment as quickly as possible. After the appointments with you have been completed and the appropriate observations made, all the staff involved in the assessment meet together to discuss your reports, our observations, and the reports from school to decide whether the criteria have been met for a diagnosis. Following this, we will arrange an appointment to discuss the findings and how you and your child may be supported. You will receive a written report of the assessment and agreed plan of care. If the assessment shows that your child does not have ADHD, we can discuss what other services may be available to help or any further assessment that might be recommended.