

# Autism support for children and families

## Autism assessments

The Together Trust can provide autism assessments which can be used to establish if a child or young person presents with indicators of autism in line with DSM V and ICD-11 diagnostic criteria.



The clinical assessment tools used by the Together Trust are the ADI-r (a parent/carer interview) and ADOS 2 (a direct assessment with the child or young person). These are 'gold standard' assessments used to support diagnostic decision-making.

The assessments are completed by professionals from our Psychology and Speech and Language Therapy teams, who are autism specialists, and can provide a comprehensive assessment report.

While the Together Trust cannot provide a formal diagnosis of autism, NHS services will accept these assessments as evidence and can make multi-disciplinary diagnostic judgements without need for additional interviews or assessments. This can be particularly helpful when there are long NHS wait times for the appointments for these types of assessments. They may also be helpful when evidencing a child or young person's needs to schools and Local Authorities and can support children and young people to understand themselves better.

For more information about the features of autism please visit the National Autistic Society:  
[autism.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/what-is-autism](https://autism.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/what-is-autism)

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## Parent support workshops on Social Communication and Autism

We are here to support children and families through assessment and post-diagnosis.

Clinical Services at the Together Trust have a hub of expertise relating to autism, including specialist psychologists, speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, sleep practitioner therapists and Positive Behaviour Support advisors. Parents/carers can access workshops or individual sessions with a professional on the following topics:

- o Healthy sleep
- o Emotional literacy and wellbeing
- o Social interaction and communication
- o Sensory processing
- o Supporting behaviour
- o Sharing the news

For further information about these opportunities and pricing, please contact our Therapy and Specialist Support admin team by emailing: [admintss@togethertrust.org.uk](mailto:admintss@togethertrust.org.uk)

Find out more by visiting [togethertrust.org.uk](https://togethertrust.org.uk)

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