

If your child is not given a diagnosis, we will think together as to what else might explain your child's difficulties and think about services which may be helpful. It is important to consider other conditions which can present as ADHD to ensure the best support is provided.

We will write a report and send one to your GP, a copy will go to your child's school with your consent and you will receive a copy. This will provide information about the assessment and whether we have given a diagnosis or not. This will also include recommendations for further support.

## Contact

### **The Emotional Health Service**

42 York Street, Twickenham TW1 3BW

**T:** 020 8487 5470

#### **Opening hours:**

Monday to Thursday: 8.45am to 5.00pm

Friday: 8.45am to 4.45 pm

**W:** [www.afcinfo.org.uk/emotionalhealthservice](http://www.afcinfo.org.uk/emotionalhealthservice)

## Emotional Health Service

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# Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

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Pre-assessment information

## Who are we?

We are the Neurodevelopmental team within the Emotional Health Service. We are a small team that assesses children and young people from the ages of 6 to 18 years for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). We are made up of psychologists, mental health nurses and psychology assistants. Your child has been referred to our team as it is felt that they may be displaying some symptoms of autistic spectrum disorder (ASD).

## What is ADHD and ADD?

ADHD affects how people manage in all areas of their life. For some young people this can prevent them from doing their best. Symptoms include:

### Impulsivity

- difficulty waiting their turn
- blurting out answers before questions have been completed
- interrupting others
- not having an awareness of danger

### Hyperactivity

- fidgets with hands and legs
- difficulties remaining seated
- difficulties playing quietly
- high levels of energy and always on the go
- talks excessively

### Inattention

- easily distracted
- difficulties following instructions and finishing tasks
- difficulties with organisation
- misplaces or loses things necessary for tasks

Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) refers to people with high levels of inattention without impulsivity or hyperactivity.

## What happens on the day?

You and your child will be seen by one or two members of the team. They will ask you about your child's early development, their schooling and psychiatric history as well as brief details about your own health and family history. These details are helpful in making a decision as to whether your child may have ADHD. The assessment will last for approximately one and a half hours.

## What we also do

We also look at questionnaires about your child's life at home and at school to see how they are coping emotionally and academically. These will be collected before the assessment appointment.

## Where is the appointment?

The appointment is based at 42 York Street in Twickenham

## Do i need to bring anything to the appointment?

Please bring any other relevant reports you think could be useful. For example assessments from educational psychologists, occupational therapists or speech and language therapists. If you have your child's personal child Health record (red book) or any school reports then please also bring these along.

## What happens next?

As a team we will go away and discuss all the information we have received from the assessment, along with information from the school. We are not usually able to give a diagnosis on the day, however you will be invited back for a follow up appointment to be told if your child has ADHD or not.

If your child is given a diagnosis of ADHD, then we will signpost you to the appropriate specialist services in the area who can support you with this.