

More information?

If you would like more information please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

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If you would like this leaflet in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language please contact **01603 697300**

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Autistic Spectrum Disorder Assessment Team

Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS) Leaflet



Looking after you locally

What is an ADOS?

ADOS stands for Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule. The ADOS can be used to help in the assessment of a child for an Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

The ADOS is a structured assessment focusing on a child's communication, social interaction, play and restricted and repetitive behaviours.

The ADOS is made up of a number of different tasks and activities which will be carried out in a structured way with your child.

What happens during the assessment?

The clinician will choose the most appropriate tasks based on your child's level of communication and age.

The clinician will then observe whether certain behaviours occur during the tasks.

The behaviours that are being observed are ones that have been identified as being associated with a diagnosis of ASD.

The clinician and sometimes a second observer will be making notes throughout each activity and task.

You will be made aware of who will be carrying out the assessment by way of your appointment letter.

The assessment usually lasts about an hour but can sometimes be longer.

Following the assessment...

The clinicians will write a full report based on the assessment and feedback their observations to a team of specialist professionals.

The ADOS forms one part of the assessment for your child and other observations and assessments may be needed before a diagnosis can be made.

Once all assessments are completed the team of professionals will discuss these and come to a conclusion about a diagnosis for your child.

An appointment will then be made with you to feedback the outcome of the assessments.