

Your rights to a diagnosis

If you suspect your child has autism, your GP should refer you to the local autism team to arrange for a diagnosis.

If you are an adult and you experience difficulties in social communication, rigid and repetitive behaviours and you have difficulties in sustaining education/employment/social relationships, your GP should refer you for a comprehensive diagnostic assessment.

Support after diagnosis

At school, a child with a diagnosis should be assessed for a statement of educational needs to help them access extra support if they need it for their learning:

- If the local authority decides not to write a statement after the assessment, they should always explain why
- If you believe your child should have an educational statement and the local authority decided not to write one, you can appeal to the Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal
- If you are an adult, once you receive a diagnosis, you should be offered a community care assessment by the local authority

If you have not been offered a community care assessment after a diagnosis, you can ask for one to be carried out.

Transitions

- If your child has a statement of education needs, the local authority has to begin transition planning from Year 9
- If your child does not have a statement of education needs, but does have a diagnosis, they may have a Health Action Plan that looks at their social skills and strategies for self-care
- A child with autism in transition should be offered a community care assessment
- If your child has not been offered a community care assessment, ask your local authority's autism team

For more information, [click here](#).

If you need help looking for services for an individual with an autism spectrum condition, we can help. Click below for the Autism Placement Support Service.

Click here for our
Autism Placement
Support Service

