

## **Private neurodevelopmental assessments**

If you decide that you'd like your child to have a private assessment, instead of one provided by an NHS neurodevelopmental service, there are important issues to consider first.

### **What to expect from a private service**

- You should check that the person completing the assessment is qualified to complete a specialist neurodevelopmental assessment and give a diagnosis. They could be:
- A child psychologist or consultant paediatrician registered with the General Medical Council (GMC)
- A specialist nurse registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)
- A psychologist, occupational therapist, or speech and language therapist registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)

### **The National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) provides guidance on neurodevelopmental assessments and diagnosis:**

- Guidance on diagnosis and management of ADHD
- Assessment and diagnosis of autism: what to expect

### **You should ask the private service if the assessment, diagnosis and assessment report will meet the NICE standards. This means the assessment will involve:**

- Your child being at the centre of the assessment and having their voice heard
- Reviewing information from more than one setting (usually home and school)
- A clinical observation
- The use of questionnaires or specialist standardised assessments

*Your local NHS neurodevelopmental service team cannot give you advice on which private service to use.*