

Since June 2015 at Chesterfield Royal Hospital we have been doing lots of work on a new Autism pathway with the aim of making the assessment process more: timely, efficient, integrated and of good quality.

All the way a long we have had regular focus groups with parents and staff and there has been lots of work by all. These are just a few of the key things that we have achieved:

- An assessment booklet that supports the notion of the family and young person going through the pathway whilst professionals contribute to the assessment.
- Offering an integrated service that explains what is happening and when with a range of leaflets for different audiences.
- One developmental history so parents only tell their story once.
- One post-diagnosis booklet with local parent's FAQ and stories.
- Mapping out all the interventions we offer and ensuring that all parents are signposted and offered at the very least one follow-up workshop, post diagnosis.
- A range of individual leaflets on specific topics
- A small pilot with parental feedback.
- Consistency in service between the assessments that are carried out regardless if they happen within CAMHS or Paediatrics.
- Positive feedback from Commissioners at the Children's Transformational Commissioning Group.
- Shared some of the resources with the South.

Our next steps are to:

- Carry out an extended pilot of the whole pathway, so all new referrals are going through this.
- Further develop a clear offer of interventions and highlight gaps to commissioners.
- Develop a clear leaflet on second opinion.
- Release a document / detailed guide on the assessment process for our clinicians.
- Link in with other agencies and organisations.