

# Autism Diagnostic Clinics

Words First Ltd are expanding our range of services for children and young people by offering bespoke, comprehensive multidisciplinary assessments for **Autism Spectrum Conditions!**

## What do we offer?

- \* Our team comprises a paediatrician, highly specialist speech and language therapist and occupational therapist
- \* Our Words First speech and language therapist and occupational therapist are both ADOS-2 trained
- \* We offer a comprehensive hybrid assessment process to fully get to know your child and understand their needs
- \* We collaborate with families and welcome input from schools during the assessment process

## What can you expect?

- \* Detailed pre-assessment screenings
- \* Detailed developmental history with our paediatrician
- \* ADOS-2 completed by both our speech and language therapist and occupational therapist
- \* Additional speech and language or occupational therapy assessments if indicated
- \* A full, detailed report of the assessment findings
- \* Feedback to families upon completion of the assessment



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[www.wordsfirst.uk](http://www.wordsfirst.uk) 0208 0501491

Our Clinics run monthly on Mondays at Kids First, 119 Valley Road, Kenley, CR8 5BY

# Frequently Asked Questions

## What is the ADOS?

ADOS stands for *Autism Diagnostic Observation Scale*. There are different scales depending on an individual's age and verbal fluency. During this part of the assessment, our therapists will prepare the appropriate scale and accompanying activities/toys in one of our therapy rooms at Kids First. As your child engages with the materials, our therapists will be completing observations and guiding interaction with the materials, if indicated. You will be allowed in the room with your child during the entire ADOS assessment.

## Who can refer?

We accept referrals from parents, schools, local GP's and other health professionals. If you are unsure, or would like more information related to our clinics, please email: [h.heerey@wordsfirst.uk](mailto:h.heerey@wordsfirst.uk)

## Do you offer follow up intervention?

Yes! Our Autism Diagnostic Team will be able to refer you to our Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Play Therapy, Counselling or Educational Psychology services if required. Please note: The Autism Diagnostic Team do not provide follow up interventions; this will be completed by our colleagues at the Kids First Clinic, or Words First Ltd therapists if your child is in a school that accesses our services.

## How long does the appointment last?

You will be seen by our paediatrician prior to your in-person appointment at Kids First. We recommend allowing 3-4 hours for your Kids First appointment, as this will include the ADOS, supplementary assessments and discussion with you before/after. We also allow time for any breaks your child may need during the assessment.



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For more information,  
please see our information  
pack on [www.wordsfirst.uk](http://www.wordsfirst.uk) or  
email [h.heerey@wordsfirst.uk](mailto:h.heerey@wordsfirst.uk)

# Meet the team!



## Chevonne du Plessis

Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist  
– SEMH and Neuro-development

Hello, my name is Chevonne. I studied at the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa and completed my bachelor's degree in Speech, Language & Hearing Therapy in 2013. I completed my MSc degree in Speech-Language Pathology (cum laude) at the University of Cape Town before moving to the UK in 2019. In 2020, I completed my PG Diploma in Developmental Neuroscience & Psychopathology (with distinction) from University College London. I have a special interest in neurodevelopmental disorders such as Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). I completed my ADOS-2 training in July 2021.



## Dr Ranjini Mohan

Consultant Paediatrician  
– General Paediatrics and  
Neurodevelopmental  
Paediatrics

Hello, my name is Ranjini. I trained in one of the top institutions in India, St. John's Medical College Hospital, graduating with merit in MBBS (undergraduate) in 1999. I then completed my internship in India, before completing my postgraduation in the UK, training and working in paediatrics since 2000. My current interest is in all aspects of autism and I have been a part of the ARFID pathway being developed in Warwickshire. I have worked with children with autism for the last few years, dealing with associated medical problems like gut issues, sleep and restrictive eating etc. I continue to work as a general paediatrician within the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust (Paediatrics) at the Horton Hospital.



## Jess Wilson

Occupational Therapist  
– Special Schools and  
Neurodevelopment

Hello, my name is Jess, and I work as an Occupational Therapist at Words First. I completed my Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy at the University of Cape Town, graduating in 2019. I work as an Occupational Therapist in a special needs school in London to support children with diverse needs. I work alongside several other health care professionals to provide holistic and child-centred care to the students. Working in this environment has helped to develop my passion and interest in the areas of Sensory Integration, as well as different neurodevelopmental conditions, such as Autism Spectrum Conditions. I completed my ADOS-2 (Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule) training in July 2023.