



Consultant in Child & Adolescent Neurodevelopmental Psychiatry

CYP Neurodevelopmental Services (ADHD & Autism Assessments)

Directorate: Neurodevelopmental & Mental Health

Base: Remote but with flexibility for occasional in-person meetings (Worcestershire)

Hours: Sessions negotiable

Contract/Grade: £109,725 – £145,478

Pre-employment checks: Enhanced DBS Check, Medical Indemnity Required

About Vertis Health

Vertis Health is a GP-owned organisation in Primary Care Worcestershire. We deliver safe, evidence-based community services through clinician-led teams, robust governance, and practical, data-driven improvement.

Role purpose

The postholder will act as the **senior clinical decision-maker** for complex ADHD and Autism cases, ensuring safe, evidence based assessment and diagnosis for children and young people aged 6–18.

You will:

- Lead and quality assure ADHD & Autism diagnostic pathways
- Provide senior oversight of differential diagnosis
- Supervise MDT assessments and clinical staff
- Ensure safe onward referral and management planning
- Hold responsibility for complex or high risk cases
- Support the neurodevelopmental workforce to provide consistent, NICE compliant care

This service operates across **Worcestershire**, with remote and in-person delivery.

Why this role exists

This post has been established to provide the consultant level psychiatric leadership required for safe, high-quality ADHD and Autism assessment pathways for children and young people. It ensures robust clinical oversight, consistent diagnostic standards, and effective management of complex presentations within a growing neurodevelopmental service.





About the Services

The services currently include:

- **Adult ADHD** – assessment and ongoing clinical reviews, with medication titration delivered under appropriate prescribing governance and shared care with GPs where agreed.
- **Adult ASD** – diagnostic assessment pathway delivered through an MDT model.
- **Children and Young People (CYP) ADHD** – an assessment and diagnosis pathway (with onward treatment and medication pathways subject to commissioning and wider system arrangements).
- **Children and Young People (CYP) ASD** – a diagnostic assessment pathway delivered through a multidisciplinary model, aligned to national guidance and local commissioning arrangements.

This consultant post provides senior clinical leadership across *both* CYP neurodevelopmental pathways, supporting a GP led model with structured MDT involvement.

Main duties and responsibilities

Clinical Responsibilities

- **ADHD Assessment Responsibilities**
 - Conduct or sign off ADHD diagnostic assessments in line with DSM5 / ICD11 and NICE NG87.
 - Review and interpret:
 - Conners / Vanderbilt scales
 - Preassessment questionnaires
 - School/secondsetting evidence
 - QBTtest and cognitive assessments where required
 - Assess complex presentations including:
 - Trauma, attachment concerns
 - ODD/CD
 - Learning disability
 - Anxiety, low mood, selfharm
 - Substance misuse (where relevant)
 - Produce highquality, neurodiversityaffirming diagnostic reports and personalised care plans.





- **Autism Assessment Responsibilities**

- Act as senior clinician for Autism assessments, providing diagnostic leadership and oversight.
- Undertake or supervise:
 - Detailed neurodevelopmental histories
 - Sensory questionnaires
 - Validated Autism assessment tools (ADOS or equivalent)
 - Cognitive or speech/language elements where indicated
- Lead formulation & feedback sessions with families.

Complex Case Leadership

- Lead clinical decision-making where diagnosis is unclear, multiple comorbidities exist, or presentation is atypical.
- Provide senior review for escalated cases flagged by clinicians via triage, questionnaires, or MDT.

MDT & Workforce Leadership

- Provide clinical leadership for weekly MDT meetings across both services.
- Oversee case reviews, peer review processes, and medicines audits (where relevant).
- Support the development and competency of:
 - GPs
 - Band 7 clinicians
 - Psychologists
 - Nurses and operational staff
- Promote consistent clinical standards and highquality documentation.

Governance, Quality & Reporting

The postholder will contribute to:

- Monthly, quarterly, and sixmonthly contractual reports
- Quality dashboards (performance, safety, outcomes, access)
- NICE compliance, clinical audit, and service improvement
- Patient safety reviews (PSIRFaligned)
- Safeguarding practice (children & adults)



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- CQC compliance and clinical risk management
 - Interface with schools, CAMHS, community paediatrics & voluntary sector

Communication & Liaison

- Provide clear written diagnostic outcomes for families, GPs, schools, and partner organisations.
- Advise on reasonable adjustments and support recommendations.
- Ensure assessment findings are accurately communicated into EMIS and across care interfaces.
- Support effective “Waiting Well” communications and signposting.

Professional standards and safeguarding

The postholder is required to practise within professional scope, maintain registration, and follow all Vertis Health policies, NHS-aligned governance standards, and safeguarding procedures. The postholder will maintain mandatory training, attend supervision, and evidence ongoing CPD appropriate to the role.





Person specification

Essential

- GMC registration with licence to practise
- CCT in Child & Adolescent Psychiatry OR Paediatrics
- Significant experience in ADHD & Autism assessment in CYP (minimum 3 years)
- Skilled in neurodevelopmental formulations
- Experience supervising multidisciplinary teams
- Understanding of NICE NG87 (ADHD), CG128 & CG170 (Autism)
- Confidence managing complex comorbid presentations
- Excellent communication skills with children, young people & families
- Safeguarding level 3 (children)

Desirable

- ADOS/ADI-R training
- Experience in private/independent sector pathways
- Experience with QB Test interpretation
- Experience working within primary care aligned ND services
- Teaching and service development experience

Additional information

This job description reflects the current commissioned scope of the CYP ADHD and ASD assessment and diagnosis pathway. The service model, tools used, and MDT arrangements may evolve in line with commissioning and governance requirements. Any changes will be implemented with clear communication, training, and supervision support.

