

Diagnosing Autism (ASD) requires a comprehensive assessment of a child's social, communication, and play skills, as well as assessment of the child's behaviours and functional capacity. The assessment is conducted by a clinical psychologist trained and experienced in assessment of children, with specific training in ASD diagnostics.

What is involved in the assessment?

Pre-assessment review (~1 hour)

- Parents complete intake form, reviewed by psychologist prior to appointment
- Psychologist review of all previous assessment reports (which may include paediatric reviews, speech pathology, occupational therapy etc)
- Liaison with other health professionals if required.

In-clinic appointment (~4 hours) typically done in the one day

- A developmental assessment and clinical history using the Autism Spectrum Rating Scale (ASRS) and semi-structured clinical interview with parent/s using the Autism Diagnostic Interview (ADI-R)
- A clinical assessment with the child using the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS-2)

Report writing (~2-3 hours)

- Assessment analysis & interpretation, diagnostic mapping, and report writing

Feedback session (30-45min), booked a fortnight post assessment date.

- Parent feedback session to go through results from assessment

Additional assessment processes:

For some children additional steps are required to provide a more comprehensive assessment of functioning, or assist in gathering additional required data to complete the diagnostic assessment. These processes incur additional fees and so are only incorporated if required.

Collateral assessment

- Interview discussions with school/daycare, &/or assessment observation at school/daycare
- Teachers completing questionnaires such as the Autism Spectrum Rating Scale

Cognitive assessment – IQ test

- Identification of intellectual delays or giftedness to assess adaptive functioning, or differential diagnosis. This allows provides an understanding of a child's unique learning profile – their cognitive strengths and weaknesses and how this impacts on academic progress and achievements, behaviour, socialisation, and emotional functioning.

Assessment Fees

Assessment	Fee
ASD Diagnostic Assessment	\$1450
ASD Diagnostic + Cognitive Assessment	\$1950
Preschool / School observation (if needed)	\$220

What happens after the assessment?

If an Autism diagnosis is given the psychologist will discuss with you what the diagnosis means and outline the relevant treatment services. If your child does not have Autism the psychologist will discuss with you what they think is the source of the concerns that initially led to an assessment and appropriate interventions. It is important to note that throughout the ASD assessment process the psychologist will be also be considering other explanations for the child's presenting issues.