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## STEP 2:

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At this stage the following things will happen:

1. Your child will be seen by a doctor (Paediatrician) OR CAMHS Specialist. They will ask you and your child some questions and examine your child.
2. Your child will meet and be assessed by a Speech and Language Therapist
3. Your child will have a hearing test.
4. The doctor will ask for your permission to discuss your child with other specialists at a SCAT meeting. You will sign a consent form for this.

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## STEP 3: SCAT Meeting

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This meeting happens once a month. You will be told when your child will be discussed. At this meeting your child will be discussed by your child's doctor and several other specialists. The aim of the meeting is to try and decide the most likely cause of the difficulties your child is having.

You will have a meeting with your child's doctor to discuss the outcome of this SCAT meeting. They will talk to you about the best way to move forward and support you and your child now and in the future.

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## Some useful contact numbers for you:

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### **Speech and Language Therapist:**

Cardiff: 02920 907 645

Vale: 02920 745 761

### **Community Paediatrician:**

St Davids Children's Centre: 02920 536 789

Llandough Children's Centre: 02920 715 580

### **CAMHS:**

St Davids Children's Centre: 02920 536 730

Llandough Children's Centre: 02920 715 593

### **ASD Specialist Support Services:**

Cardiff Autism Support Team

(Mynachdy Centre): 02920 629 800

Vale of Glamorgan School Improvement and

Inclusion Service: 01446 709 180

### **For more information and further reading please visit:**

<http://pathways.nice.org.uk/pathways/autism>

[www.autism.org.uk](http://www.autism.org.uk) (National Autistic Society)

### **For any help or support during the assessment process please visit:**

[www.cafamily.org.uk](http://www.cafamily.org.uk) (Contact a family)

<http://thrivecardiff.org/> (Thrive Cardiff)

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# SCAP

## Social Communication Assessment Pathway

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### A Guide for Parents and Families

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GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Caerdydd a'r Fro  
Cardiff and Vale  
University Health Board

The Social Communication Assessment Pathway has been set up to improve early recognition and diagnosis of children who have social communication difficulties.

**Social Communication** is about how a child develops play skills, communication and interaction skills and understanding of social rules.

There are several reasons your child could be assessed by this pathway. The main reason is because your child is having difficulty with Social Communication, Interaction or Play. For younger children this could mean they have a delay in their speech and language development or they might find it difficult to play with other children. For older children they may have difficulty making friends and interacting with other children the same age as them.

This guide will explain to you as parents/guardians what to expect over the next few months. It will tell you what will happen at each step along the pathway and what support is available to you.

Over the next few months you and your child will meet lots of different people. These people form part of the Social Communication Assessment Team. They will decide how best to help you and your child now and in the future.

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## The Social Communication Assessment Team (SCAT):

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### Includes:

- Paediatrician (if your child is under 11 years) OR Child Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) Specialist (if your child is aged 11 years or over) and Speech and Language Therapist.

- SCAT Co-ordinator (although you may not meet this person)

### If necessary:

- Occupational Therapist
- Clinical/Educational Psychologist
- Autism Specialist teacher (school age children) or Social Communication, Interaction and Play team (pre-school children)

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## The Pathway:

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- There are 4 steps but steps 1-3 are the main steps. Most people finish the pathway at step 3.
- It is most likely that you are at either step 1 or 2 now



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## STEP 1:

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At step 1 you or your family doctor (GP), health visitor or child's nursery teacher/school teacher has noticed that your child has difficulty with social communication, interaction or play. A number of things will happen at this stage:

1. Recorded observations of your child playing/interacting will be done by either your child's teacher, health visitor or Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (also known as a SENCo) . You will then have a meeting with this person to discuss this.
2. You and this specialist will make a 'play plan' if you have a younger child (less than 5) or an Individual Education Plan (IEP) if your child is over 5; something you, your child and their teacher will work on over the next few months to help improve the difficulties they are having.
3. Following discussions with you and if there are still concerns, your child will be referred to:
  - a Paediatrician OR CAMHS (depending on your child's age)
  - a Speech and Language Therapist
  - Audiology: so they can have a hearing test
  - Your child may be seen by a clinical/educational psychologist based on the school's advice
  - Occupational Therapist