



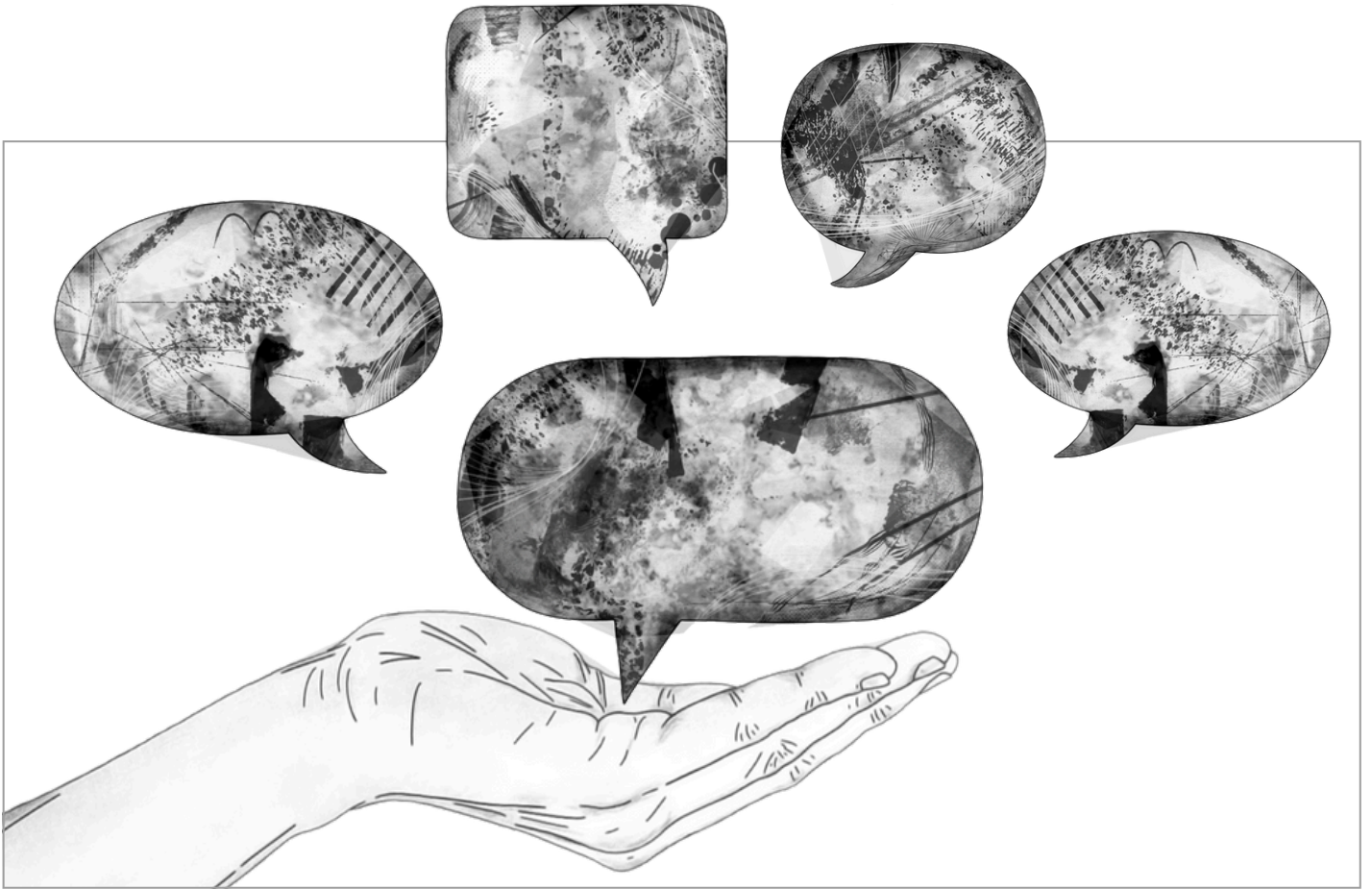
Adoption, Special Guardianship and Kinship Care Specialist Assessment Service



Information for parents, carers and referrers

June 2025

Our Assessments



We approach all our Therapeutic Needs Assessments as a relational, respectful and inclusive process guided by the voices of both your child and you as caregivers.

We believe that a thorough assessment is a really important beginning for any ongoing therapeutic support.

A good assessment maps out the picture and helps to make sense of what your unique needs are as a family and what the best next steps are for the services that support you.

Assessment Information

How much do assessments cost?

We have a tiered fee structure, depending on who is funding the assessment; and we also provide bespoke quotes depending on the requirements of the assessment before we begin working with the family.

As a guide, specialist assessments funded by parents/carers directly cost approximately £2,025; and when funded by statutory services such as Local Authorities or SENAT, costs are approximately £2475 per assessment.

All families coming to Beacon House for an assessment are offered a **20% discount** off our range of parent/carer online courses on trauma and attachment ([see here for what's on offer](#)).

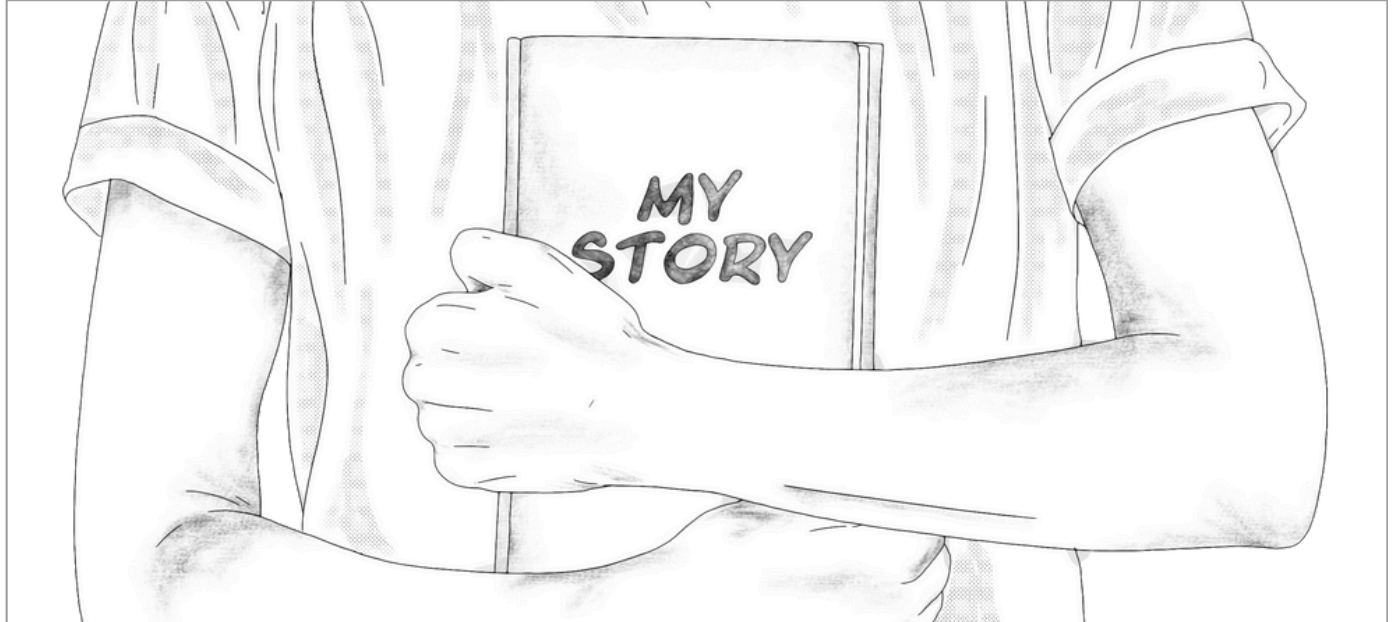
Where do assessments take place?

Assessments take place at our therapy space in Cuckfield (West Sussex) and also in community bases in the South of the County. In exceptional circumstances we can consider online assessments for families who live out of area.

How long do assessments take?

We aim to complete assessments with one child within 4 weeks. For two or more siblings we aim to complete assessments in 6-8 weeks.

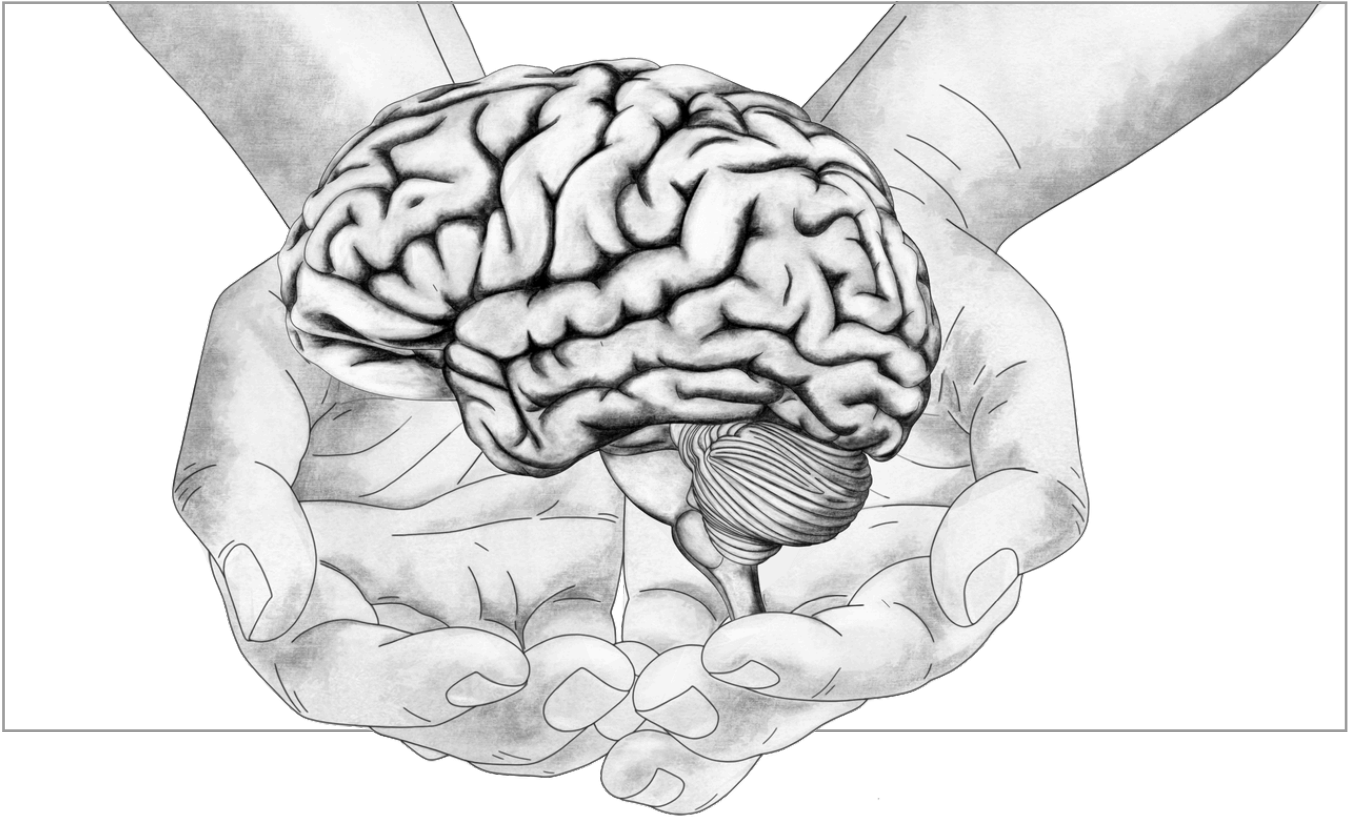
What does an assessment involve?



Typically, an assessment includes:

- A meeting with you as parents/carers
- A meeting with your child, alone if they feel comfortable enough
- A meeting with you and your child together
- Reading of previous reports that have been written
- A conversation with your social worker if they know you well, and other professionals involved in your child's care or education
- The completion of questionnaires about your child and family
- A comprehensive report
- A feedback meeting with you and your social worker, where we share our assessment findings and discuss the next steps

What assessments are available?



We offer 4 specialist assessments, each one with a different focus. We will support you and your referrer (if you have one) to decide which assessment will be most helpful for your child:

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
Child & Family Therapeutic Needs Assessment	Multi-disciplinary Sensory Therapeutic Needs Assessment	Transition to Adulthood Therapeutic Needs Assessment	Specialist Assessment of the impact of Trauma, Attachment Needs and including Diagnostic Assessment for FASD

Read on to find out more...

Option 1:

Child & Family Therapeutic Needs Assessment For children 2 – 15 years

Identifying the impact of:

- Your child's early trauma and relationships on their development now
- Your experiences of identity and community and other challenges intersecting with your family's trauma

Assessing and understanding:

- How to make sense of your child's behaviours and needs
- The priorities for change for you as parents/carers and for your child
- The areas of parenting that are thriving and the areas that you'd like help with
- Any risk to safety and stability that you or your child face
- Your strengths and opportunities to grow through your challenging experiences as a family

Creating a therapeutic plan which:

- Shares a trauma-informed formulation of your family's therapeutic needs
- Signposts any further assessments that your child would benefit from
- Sets out which areas of need should be worked with and in which sequence
- Identifies which type of therapy would be most beneficial
- Explains what Beacon House can offer and what might be offered by other local/statutory services
- Suggests ways to build a more responsive system of care around you as a family
- Suggests ways to build a more responsive system of care around you as a family
- Recommends initial sensory strategies to try at home and at school

Option 2: **Multi-disciplinary Sensory Therapeutic Needs Assessment** For children 5 – 25 years

Identifying the impact of:

- Your child's early trauma and relationships on their sensory development
- Your experiences of identity and community and other challenges intersecting with your family's trauma

Assessing and understanding:

- How to make sense of your child's behaviours and needs through understanding the ways their senses are either under-sensitive and/or over-sensitive
- The priorities for change for you as parents/carers and for your child
- The areas of parenting that are thriving and the areas that you'd like help with
- Your strengths and opportunities to grow through your challenging experiences as a family

Creating a therapeutic plan which:

- Shares a trauma and sensory-informed formulation of your family's therapeutic needs
- Signposts any further assessments that your child would benefit from
- Sets out which areas of sensory need should be worked with and in which sequence
- Identifies whether Sensory Attachment Intervention would be beneficial and, if so, how
- Explains what Beacon House can offer and what might be offered by other local/statutory services
- Suggests ways to build a more responsive system of care around you as a family
- Recommends initial strategies to try at home and at school

Option 3: Transition to Adulthood Therapeutic Needs Assessment For young adults 16 – 25 years

Identifying the impact of:

- The young adult's early trauma and relationships on their development and their current emotional well-being
- Their experiences of identity and community and other challenges intersecting with your family's trauma

Assessing and understanding:

- How to make sense of the young adult's behaviours and needs through a trauma and attachment lens
- The priorities for change for them and also for you as parents/carers
- The areas of your relationship with them that are strong and thriving and the areas that need support
- Any risk to their safety and stability and how we can reduce risk
- Their strengths and opportunities to grow through their challenging experiences as a family

Creating a therapeutic plan which:

- Shares a trauma-informed formulation of the young adult's needs which supports the safe transition from adolescence to adulthood
- Identifies the support needed in order to increase safety
- Signposts for any further assessments indicated
- Sets out which interventions will have most impact and in what sequence
- Explains what Beacon House can offer and what might be offered by other local/statutory services
- Suggests ways to build a more responsive system of care around you as a family

Option 4:

Specialist Assessment of the impact of Trauma, Attachment Needs and including Diagnostic Assessment for FASD

For young people 6 – 16 years*

Identifying the impact of:

- Your child's pre- and post-birth trauma and relationships on their development now with a special focus on whether their difficulties can be understood as resulting from the effects of an alcohol exposed pregnancy (FASD- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder).

Assessing and understanding:

- How to make sense of your child's behaviours and needs, taking into account both their trauma and neurodivergence.
- The priorities for change for you as parents/carers and for your child

Creating a therapeutic plan which:

- Shares a trauma-informed and neurodiversity-affirming formulation of your child's therapeutic needs (and may include a diagnosis of FASD if criteria are met)
- Signposts any further assessments that your child would benefit from
- Sets out which areas of need should be worked with
- Identifies which type of therapy would be most beneficial
- Explains what Beacon House can offer and what might be offered by other local/statutory services
- Suggests ways to build a more responsive system of care around you as a family
- Recommends initial strategies to try at home, education settings, and the community

**Completion of triage information forms and discussion with parents, caregivers, school and social workers may be needed to ensure that this is the most appropriate assessment for your child at this time.*

Find out more

Assessments take place at our therapy space in Cuckfield (West Sussex) and also in community bases in the South of the County. In exceptional circumstances we can consider online assessments for families who live out of area.



Call us: 01444 413 939

Email: admin@beaconhouse.org.uk

Visit our website www.beaconhouse.org.uk

