



Welcome to Advanced SCS

Visit Our Website or Email at
www.advancedscs.co.uk
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WINNER
INNOVATION OF THE YEAR





About us...

Advanced Social Care Services (ASCS) is a multidisciplinary provider of independent health and social care assessments across the UK. We began life as Advanced Child Care Assessments (ACCA), specialising in high-quality, child-focused assessments for court proceedings and statutory services.

As demand for our expertise grew, so did the scope of our work. To reflect our broader offering, which now encompasses both child and adult services, we have restructured under the name Advanced Social Care Services (ASCS). Under this umbrella, we now operate three dedicated arms:

- ACCA, for all child- and family-centred assessments
- AACCA, for adult social care and mental health assessments
- AHCS, providing approved NHS Framework assessments

Today, we offer a wide range of assessments commissioned by Local Authorities, legal professionals, the NHS, private individuals, and through numerous nationwide commissioning frameworks.

To meet the complexity of modern health and social care needs, we now host a multidisciplinary panel of professionals, including experienced social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists, therapists, parenting practitioners, and family support workers. This diverse team enables us to deliver holistic, expert-led assessments and interventions across a broad spectrum of cases.

We work in close partnership with those who instruct us, ensuring every piece of work is completed to the highest professional standards. As such, we are committed to full compliance and transparency. Our terms and conditions, policies, procedures, and document checks are all designed to meet the criteria set by our commissioning clients, and we remain audit-ready at all times.



handl Group

Advanced SCS is proudly supported by the handl Group, expert investors in health, social care, personal injury, and insurance, renowned for identifying and nurturing high-potential organisations.

With their strategic guidance and resources, we continually enhance the quality and breadth of our services, delivering the highest standards for our clients.

As part of the Expert Witness and Assessment Division, we benefit from over 30 years of supply chain management expertise. This allows us to draw on a wealth of experience and specialist knowledge, collaborate to define best practice, and, most importantly, identify and retain some of the finest expert witnesses across a wide range of industries.

While we benefit from this partnership, we remain independent, providing impartial, high-quality assessments you can trust.



Our Managment Team



Sarah Roddy – Managing Director

Sarah brings over 20 years' experience in the medical and legal sectors, with expertise spanning civil and family law, leading large teams across operations, finance, and supply chain, with a strong focus on quality and service excellence. A passionate advocate for professional growth, collaboration, and inclusivity, Sarah takes pride in the positive impact her work delivers for customers and stakeholders every day.



Sandra Van Empel – Service Manager

Sandra has extensive experience in child welfare and child protection, spanning over twenty-three years. Her roles have involved working with statutory child care within local authorities, young offender institutes, prisons, specialist parent and child units, foster placements, and family homes.



Amanda Walsh – Service Manager

Amanda has twenty-one years of post-qualifying experience. For most of her practice, she has worked within child protection, initially as a social worker and for eight years as a Children's Guardian.



Donna Whitehead – Service Manager

Donna has over thirty years of post-qualifying experience. For most of her practice, she has worked within Adult Social Care, specialising in Mental Health.



Tom Sanderson – Finance Manager

Tom, has over a decade of experience in budgeting, compliance, and strategic oversight. Known for his collaborative approach, he works closely with clinical and administrative teams to ensure financial stability and support informed decision-making. Practical, thoughtful, and people-focused, Tom combines care for the numbers with care for the people behind them.



Virginia Robinson – Team Leader

Virginia has a background in managing workflows in fast-paced environments, consistently delivering exceptional customer service. She brings energy, focus, and a genuine passion for providing outstanding service to all parties.



Amelia Bowles – Service Co-Ordinator

Amelia coordinates our sessional services as part of AdvancedPlus, bringing an organised and analytical approach to ensure the smooth running of support for the families we work with. Her attention to detail and commitment to efficiency help us deliver a seamless, high-quality service.



Our Panel of Experts

At Advanced Social Care Services, we have a wide nationwide panel of experts who specialise in health and social care.

Onboarding Process

We follow a rigorous safer recruitment process to ensure the highest standards of safeguarding and professionalism. All experts on our panel are thoroughly vetted through enhanced DBS checks, verified qualifications, professional references, and up-to-date Social Work England/HPCP/GMC registration. We conduct thorough interviews and ongoing compliance checks to maintain a trusted network of experienced professionals. This commitment to safer recruitment ensures our clients receive reliable, ethical, and high-quality social care services at all times.

Service Framework

Our service framework is designed to ensure consistency, quality, and accountability in every matter we manage. From the point of referral to final reporting, we follow a transparent, structured process that prioritises communication, timeliness, and client-focused outcomes. All work is coordinated through our central team to maintain oversight and quality assurance, with clear expectations set for reporting standards, timescales, and professional conduct. This framework enables us to deliver reliable, transparent, and high-quality independent social care services that meet the needs of clients, referrers, and commissioning bodies alike.

Quality Assurance

Quality is at the heart of everything we do. Our quality assurance process ensures that all assessments, reports, and professional input meet the highest standards of accuracy, clarity, and relevance. Every piece of work submitted by our experts is reviewed for compliance with ethical and professional benchmarks. We provide feedback, offer support where needed, and conduct regular audits to ensure consistency and promote continuous improvement. This robust quality process instils confidence in our clients regarding the reliability and integrity of our services.



Advanced Child Care Assessments

Our Range of Assessments

We provide a comprehensive suite of impartial, high-quality assessments covering family, welfare, and specialist needs. Each is delivered by experienced professionals, ensuring clarity, accuracy, and insight for every case.

Family & Parenting Assessments

- Standard, Specialist & Additional Needs Assessments – Comprehensive evaluations tailored to each family's circumstances.
- Viability & Parenting Capacity Assessments (Standard & High Risk) – Assessing the ability to provide safe and effective care.
- Sibling, Age & Connected Persons Assessments – Understanding family relationships and placement suitability.
- Special Guardianship Order Assessments – Supporting secure long-term placements.

Child Welfare & Risk Assessments

- Disability, EHCP & Needs-Based Assessments – Addressing educational and care requirements.
- Child Permanence Reports – Providing insight for long-term planning.
- Section 7 & Section 37 Reports – Court-directed evaluations for child welfare.
- Re W Assessments – Specialist assessments for contact and welfare disputes.
- AAA Resolution Style Model Assessments – Promoting collaborative resolution in complex cases, working with denial.
- AIM Assessments – Structured assessments for harmful sexual behaviours.
- Assessments related to Child Sexual/Criminal Exploitation – Identifying risks and safeguarding needs.

Specialist & Multi-Disciplinary Assessments

- Fostering & Adoption Assessments – Matching carers and children effectively.
- Immigration & Age Dispute Assessments – Independent evaluations for legal processes.
- Psychological Assessments – In-depth mental health and cognitive evaluations.
- Tailored Multi-Disciplinary Reports – Bringing together multiple specialisms for complex cases.
- ADHD/Autism Assessments – Diagnostic and needs-focused reporting.
- Breach of Duty Assessments – Expert review for negligence claims.



Advanced Plus

Family Support & Intervention Services

Our practical, child-focused services provide tailored observation, support, and guidance to help families work towards the best outcomes. All services are delivered by experienced professionals and designed to meet the specific needs of each case.

In-Home Programme & Community Observations

Delivered by an Independent Social Worker and a team of experienced Parenting Practitioners, our 24/7 in-home and community-based observations take place within the family home and local community over an agreed period. Placing the child at the centre of our work, we provide robust evidence of parenting capacity to support informed decision-making.

TOP Programme & SNAP Analysis

Bespoke packages of teaching and support tailored to the parent's needs. SNAP Analysis identifies parenting strengths and areas for development, while the TOP Programme offers hands-on support in the home to build parenting capacity, either as part of a wider intervention or as a stand-alone service.

Family Time Supervision

In line with the Children Act 1989, we supervise family time to help local authorities promote safe, reasonable contact between children in care and their parents or other significant individuals, where this is consistent with the child's welfare.

Outreach Support

Our Parenting Practitioners provide targeted support and supervision for parents with their children when identified risks require additional safeguards, helping families work towards safe and positive outcomes.



Advanced Adult Care Assessments

Specialist Social Care & Health Assessments

We deliver independent, expert assessments to support informed decision-making across social care, health, and legal contexts.

Social Care & Support Planning

Needs Assessments & Care and Support Plans – Identifying individual needs and creating tailored support plans.

Social Care Reviews – Reviewing existing care arrangements to ensure they remain effective and appropriate.

Transitions Assessments – Supporting young people and adults moving between care services.

Carers Assessments – Evaluating the needs of those providing care to ensure they receive appropriate support.

Mental Capacity & Legal Assessments

Mental Capacity Assessments – Determining an individual's ability to make specific decisions.

CoP3 Assessments – Capacity assessments for Court of Protection applications.

Best Interests Reports – Providing recommendations that prioritise the individual's welfare.

DoLS Assessments – Assessing applications under the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards.

Breach of Duty Assessments – Expert analysis in cases of alleged negligence.

Immigration Assessments – Independent evaluations to support immigration-related legal processes.

Health & Psychological Assessments

Full Psychological Assessments – Comprehensive evaluation of mental health and well-being.

Cognitive Assessments – Measuring thinking skills, memory, and processing abilities.

Continuing Healthcare Assessments – Determining eligibility for NHS Continuing Healthcare funding.

Advanced Health Care Assessments

ADHD & Autism Assessments

We proudly offer specialist assessments for ADHD and autism to private individuals, educational settings, Local Authorities and the NHS. As an approved provider under the NHS Framework, we deliver a comprehensive range of diagnostic services tailored to meet diverse needs.

Adult Assessments

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) – Thorough evaluation and diagnosis of adult autism.

ADHD Assessments – Detailed assessment of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder in adults.

Combined ASD and ADHD Assessments – Integrated evaluation for co-occurring conditions.

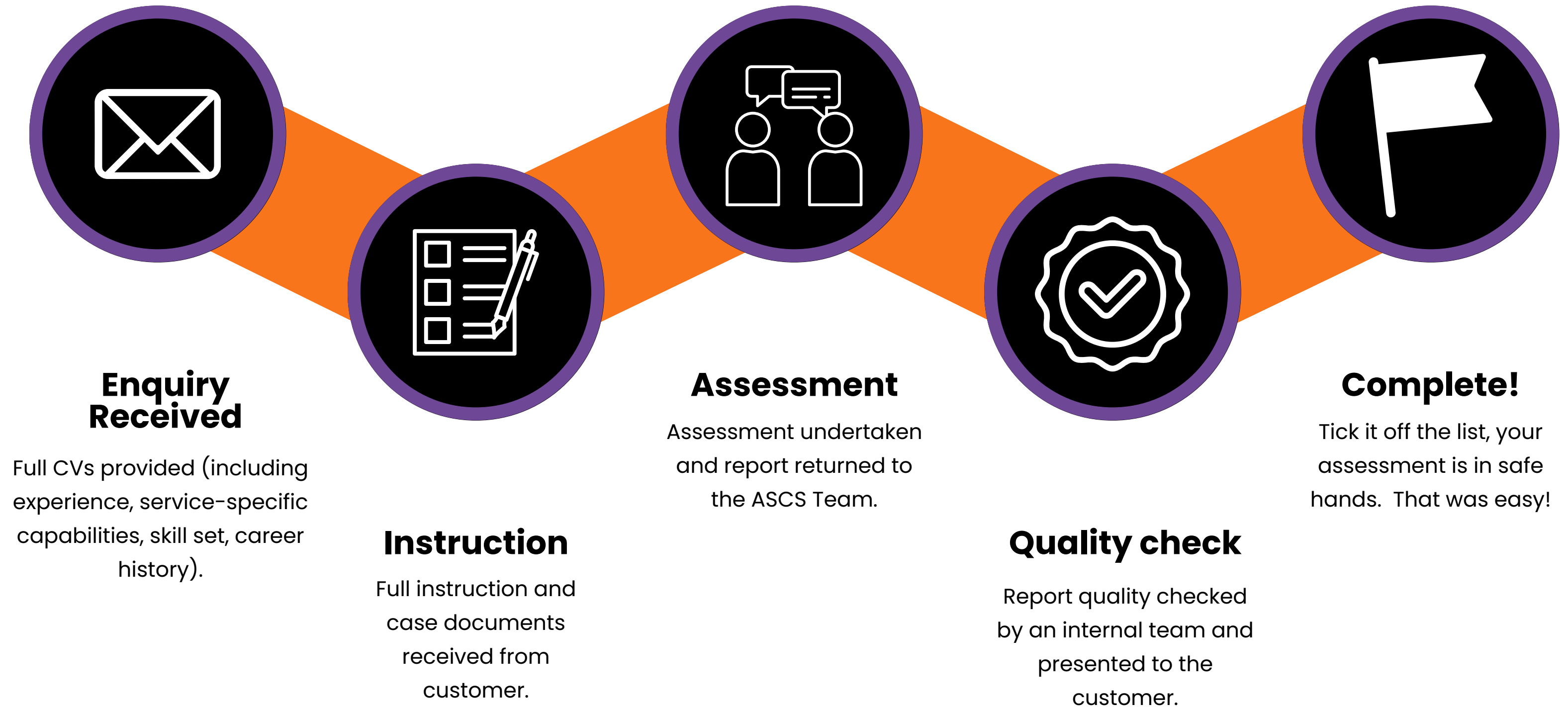
Child & Adolescent Assessments

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) – Specialist diagnostic services for children and young people.

ADHD Assessments – Comprehensive evaluations for childhood ADHD.



Operations Process





Feedback & Reflections



"The progress Mum made will stay with me for a long time. Initially, her confidence was at rock bottom, and she had walked away from her children, believing she wasn't good enough. But Mum was committed to change, keen to know what needed to be done and how she could achieve it.

There was resistance when I recommended extended family time because, on paper, she was not expected to succeed. But I saw green shoots of confidence growing in her. Mum was determined to keep her children together, and with support, she learned to address concerns. One standout moment was when I advised her to refer to herself as 'mummy' with her children, which she initially found awkward. Within a short period, the children began calling her 'mummy,' and Mum was incredibly proud of that progress. The guidance she received from ACCA was instrumental in building her confidence as a mother.

The mum I met at the start of the assessment process was a million miles away from the mum at the end of the assessment. Her confidence and self-belief were evident, and her problem-solving skills improved significantly. The reassurance, guidance and advice from the "teaching team" were instrumental in helping Mum gain confidence in her abilities as a mother. "

– North West Local Authority

"I note the conclusion is negative, but thank you for your assistance. It is wonderful that you offer this initial risk assessment without charge, and very much appreciated."

– Solicitors

"The staff members have all been very helpful with any questions that I have had. I didn't feel judged by any staff member for asking questions, and they've been really supportive."

–Family Member

"Yes, most certainly! If you just get on with it and cooperate, and take the advice, time will go by a lot quicker. I have learnt so much through the 24/7 and I truly believe I have benefited a lot from this programme and would seriously recommend it!"

–Family Member

The ISW was truly dedicated throughout this process. She had frequent communication with several professionals and family members, wrote a fair and balanced parenting assessment (and sibling assessment), and gave evidence in court clearly and confidently.

Having worked with a multitude of Independent Social Workers, it's a pleasure to work alongside someone who strives to ensure professionalism, accuracy, and emotional intelligence are utilised simultaneously in their approach.

– Local Authority

"The ACCA service has been really positive and all the staff members that have worked with me and my family have all been super helpful, kind and respectful."

–Family Member

F O R E S I G H T



If your family, criminal or immigration case needs more than ACCA's range of assessments, our partnership with Foresight will ensure you have access to the expert witness reports you need, even within the strictest court deadlines.

Foresight brings 15 years' experience to deliver timely, accurate reports that help you present a convincing picture of evidence with no additional time investment from your team.

All reports are delivered within Legal Aid rates, keeping your costs and administrative burden down.



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Thank You



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