

# What to Expect: Your Child's ADHD Screening



An ADHD screening is a process by which a healthcare provider determines if a child meets the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual criteria for ADHD. You can read more about ADHD screenings [here](#).

Your virtual ADHD screening at Clarity Pediatrics will be two 45 minute appointments and include:

- A clinical interview and behavioral observation with your child
- Review of your child's relevant medical history
- Questionnaires about your child's behavior at home and at school
- A clinical interview with your child's parent(s) or caregiver(s)



We ask your child to **join the first 15 minutes of the second appointment**, unless otherwise indicated by your psychologist. During the time with your child, the psychologist may ask questions related to:

- Mood, for example worries, sadness, anger, or frustration
- Friendships, for example "What do you like to do with your friends?"
- School, for example "Tell me about the things you like/don't like about school."
- Home life, for example "What do you do to get ready for school in the morning?"

Some parents ask for guidance on how to explain the appointment to their child.

Here are some ideas:

“You know how you’ve been telling me that you’re having trouble paying attention at school? Well, I made an appointment with a doctor to help me understand what I can do to better help you. The doctor wants to meet with you for about 15 minutes to get to know you and ask you some questions. You can also ask the doctor questions. Is there anything you want to ask them tomorrow?”

“You’ve probably noticed that [morning, homework time, bedtime, etc.] has become really stressful for us, and we often end up arguing. I want to make things better for us, so I made an appointment with a doctor to help me figure out how. The doctor wants to meet with you for about 15 minutes to get to know you and ask you some questions. You can also ask the doctor questions. Is there anything you want to ask them tomorrow?”

Need help before your appointment? Reach out to [info@claritypediatrics.com](mailto:info@claritypediatrics.com)  
or call (415) 599-0988.