



From: Simon Bailey, Dreamflight Medical Director

February 2026

Neurodivergence and Dreamflight: Guidance for medical professionals

A diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) or ADHD are not appropriate primary criteria for nomination, but we recognise that some children/young people who you are considering nominating may have a co-existing neurodivergence diagnosed or awaiting assessment.

This does not preclude nomination but we would ask you to consider whether Dreamflight is an appropriate experience for the child/young person, where they will thrive and enjoy themselves. When making nominations and discussing with parents/carers the following should be considered:

- Dreamflight trips are not an appropriate experience for children whose ASD is associated with significant learning difficulties or who are pre-verbal or minimally verbal.
- Our Florida trip can be an intense sensory experience. The theme parks are bigger, brighter and noisier than the parks in the UK and our dining hall, evening entertainment and swimming pool are all noisy, busy environments.
- The group activity nature of Dreamflight is a core part of all our trips. This means that a certain amount of flexibility is needed to fit in with what others want to do.
- Children/young people with fixed and rigid behaviours and interests will find a Dreamflight trip challenging and we will not be able to provide the individual and one to one input that would help to give the child the best experience.
- Our UK based Calvert Trust trips are also based around group activities and interactions, but the trips are smaller and the sensory environment is calmer and less overwhelming.
- Please consider and describe in the nomination any behavioural challenges that a child/young person with ADHD may have with or without medication.

Dreamflight reserves the right to withdraw its invitation to any child selected at any time prior to departure, should the information on the form be inaccurate or incomplete.