

ADCS Annual Conference, 10 – 12 July 2024
The Midland Hotel, 16 Peter Street, Manchester, M60 2DS

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

When and where is the conference?

This year's ADCS Annual Conference will be held in July at The Midland Hotel, Manchester. The first 24 hours of the conference, from 11.45am on Wednesday 10 July, is exclusively reserved for DCSs and Trust Chief Executives. The conference then opens to all members on Thursday 11 July at 11.00am. The conference will conclude on Friday 12 July at approximately 1.30pm with lunch.

Why should I book?

The conference, **exclusively for ADCS members**, provides a unique opportunity to come together to share best practice, innovation, and learning from across the sector. If you are a new member, or indeed a newly appointed DCS or Trust Chief Executive, and you've never attended the conference before, we encourage you to book your place and participate.

What's on the programme?

To ensure content is relevant and features the key issues currently facing children's services colleagues, the programme will not be available until closer to the conference. However, regular updates will be posted on the [conference pages on the ADCS website](#) and via the weekly ADCS ebulletin. Over the three days of conference there will be series of keynote addresses and plenary sessions as well as a block of workshops held on the Thursday afternoon.

Can I attend sessions online?

All sessions are held in-person; it is not possible to attend online.

What's included in the price?

Residential: as the conference is primarily a residential event, we encourage members to stay overnight to make the most of the networking opportunities available outside of the main programme. In addition to refreshments, lunch, and attendance at plenary and workshop sessions, the residential package includes an evening drinks reception and three-course dinner with wine, plus bed and breakfast at the 4-star Midland Hotel. If you wish to attend as a residential delegate, please return your residential booking form as soon as possible to secure overnight accommodation at The Midland Hotel.

Non-residential: for those not wishing to stay overnight at the conference hotel, non-residential options are available. Please refer to the booking form for further details. If you wish to stay overnight at an alternative hotel, we recommend securing your accommodation as early as possible since Manchester is expected to be very busy during conference week due to a number of events taking place around the city so hotels will fill up quickly. It is worth noting that, as a result of our long-standing relationship with The Midland Hotel, we have secured heavily discounted bedroom rates at the hotel **as part of the residential delegate package**, so you may find non-residential packages combined with alternative accommodation elsewhere, are often a similar cost.

How do I book?

- All booking forms, completed with the delegate's consent, should be returned to rebecca.denny@adcs.org.uk
- Booking forms **must** be accompanied by a purchase order (requisition numbers/orders cannot be accepted) as we cannot confirm your conference place without one – please email your purchase order to finance@adcs.org.uk. If you are booking as an individual, and not through a local authority/Trust/ADM, then a purchase order may not be necessary.
- Once your conference place is booked, you will receive a confirmation email, followed by an invoice for payment.

- The conference is exclusively for ADCS members. If you wish to book a conference place but are unsure if your local authority has made the LA Contribution to ADCS, please still email your completed booking form to rebecca.denny@adcs.org.uk. If you wish to attend the conference but are not currently an ADCS member, please email membership@adcs.org.uk for membership information.

How do I pay?

An invoice will be issued with details on how to pay by BACS; we cannot accept payment by debit card, credit card, or LA payment card. Please email finance@adcs.org.uk if you have any payment queries.

What if I need to cancel my place?

Cancellations received **after 24 April** will incur a 100% charge. Delegate replacements are permitted up to seven days prior to the conference but **the replacement delegate must be an ADCS member**.

What if the conference is fully booked?

Due to capacity at the venue, delegate places are limited. If the conference becomes fully booked, members will be notified of this via the ADCS weekly ebulletin. We will continue to receive booking forms; however, these will be placed on a waiting list. If a place becomes available, colleagues will be informed by email.