

A psychoeducational assessment is used to diagnose learning disorders (including Dyslexia), identify strengths & weaknesses and make evidence-based recommendations to improve learning outcomes. A psychologist will conduct the test and write a detailed report which provides a road map for supporting the student.

## What is included in a psychoeducational assessment?

- ✓ Questionnaire for parent (prior to assessment)
- ✓ Initial Interview with parents
- ✓ IQ/Cognitive testing
- ✓ Achievement testing
- ✓ Detailed Report with findings and recommendations
- ✓ Follow up phone appointment if requested (limited to 20 minutes)

## What will the day look like?

1. **Prior to your appt:** Your assessor will gather important background information through a parent questionnaire and may also request school reports, work samples and teacher feedback. The week before the assessment your assessor will contact you by text, email or phone to confirm your appointment.
2. **Arrival:** You and your child will arrive at the Woolloongabba, Dayboro or Benowa office for either a morning appointment or an afternoon appointment with a psychologist. We recommend that you arrive 10-15 minutes prior to your appointment time.
3. **Initial Interview:** The psychologist will have an initial interview with you (parent/guardian) to get your perspective about the challenges your child experiences. This typically takes 5 – 15 minutes. The psychologist will also explain what the testing session will look like for your child.
4. **IQ/Cognitive Testing:** This testing measures a student's thinking and reasoning abilities. Areas of investigation include verbal comprehension, visual-spatial reasoning, fluid reasoning, working memory and processing speed. This testing will provide a snapshot of their intellectual ability across these domains.
5. **Achievement Testing:** This testing measures a student's achievement in reading, writing, spelling and maths. These scores are compared to same-aged students to determine if they are performing at, behind or ahead of the expected level.



## What Tests will be used to assess my child?

Speld Qld psychologists will use a range of tools to assess your child including standardised tests, direct observation, and the gathering of background information. Tests that may be used include:

- ✓ **IQ/Cognitive** - WISC-V, Woodcock Johnson-IV Tests of Cognitive Abilities.
- ✓ **Achievement** - WIAT-III, Woodcock Johnson-IV Tests of Achievement.
- ✓ **Behavioural Testing** - If attention concerns are raised the assessor may include the Conners Rating Scales.
- ✓ **Other Tests** - FAR (reading), FAM (maths), CTOPP II (phonological processing), YARC (reading comprehension), TILLS (integrated language and literacy), TOWRE (word reading efficiency).
- ✓ Direct Observation during the testing session.
- ✓ Background information and reports from parents, teachers and specialists.

## Does this test diagnose ADHD?

This test does not diagnose ADHD. If the assessor suspects attention difficulties are impacting on learning they may administer the Conners Rating Scales. If scores are elevated the assessor may recommend that your child see a paediatrician who can diagnose ADHD.

## How long Does it Take?

A psychometric assessment can take anywhere from 2 – 4 hours. Most students take approximately 3 hours. Each student has unique challenges and strengths which affect the rate that they progress through test items.

## Won't my child get tired?

Your psychologist will monitor attention levels and student fatigue. To ensure they are getting a true measure of a student's ability they will give brain breaks, snack breaks and movement breaks when required.

## Do I need to be at the office the whole time?

Most parents don't stay for the entire testing period given that it can take up to 4 hours. If your child is feeling anxious you are welcome to get them settled in.

## How will I get to the office?

There is parking available at our office locations in Woolloongabba, Dayboro and Benowa. The Woolloongabba office is also located next to Park Road train station and Boggo Road bus station for those travelling by public transport.

## How long does it take to receive my report?

Most reports are received within 4 to 6 weeks of the assessment. Occasionally, complexities with a report or assessor workloads can cause delays outside this timeframe.

