



The Assessment Process

This note is to introduce the Literacy Care Assessment Process. It provides information about what to expect when your child is referred for an assessment or if the child's carer simply wants to come along to make enquiries.

You may be coming for one of several reasons. Usually (but not always) it will be to obtain assistance in the diagnosis of a learning disability and/or to show you ways that your child's difficulty with literacy and other scholastic tasks can be best treated.

What Can I expect?

The Assessment Process may take up to four hours. **It is usually conducted over three separate appointments** and is designed to answer the following questions:

1. Does my child have a Learning Delay, a Learning Difficulty or a Learning Disability? If so, what is it?

This may have already been addressed to some degree by other professionals that you have seen at the CDN or elsewhere.

2. How far behind is my child in terms of reading age, comprehension age, reading fluency, vocabulary and what other scholastic difficulties do they have?

3. What do I have to do to help my child succeed?

Once we clarify what difficulties your child has, we can determine what type of intervention is needed, how long it will take to reach the predetermined goals, which practitioners will need to be involved in the treatment process and what fees will be applicable.

First Appointment: Enquiry, Background and Data Analysis. Both parents and child are required at this appointment.

Second Appointment: Diagnostic Literacy Assessment with the child only.

Third Appointment: Takes place two weeks later to discuss assessment results, remediation and treatment plan with parents. The child is not required at this appointment.

In between appointments considerable time is spent scoring results, preparing the child's chart, summarizing the conclusions for the parents, meeting with the referring practitioners and preparing the necessary documentation.

There should be very few unanswered questions at the end of the Assessment Process. Treatment options and proposed plan will be fully documented for you at the third appointment. Information about remedial action, participation of other professionals, achievement outcomes, length of treatment, liaison with school, report writing and fees will all be included in the written treatment plan.



The Child Development Network

A Note about Tutorial Services

The private tutoring industry is not regulated. It is comprised of many people of differing backgrounds including registered and unregistered teachers, retired teachers, university students and even out of work graduates. If your child has a Developmental Learning Difficulty or Disability, then these services may have little understanding of what is necessary to help your child. Learning problems must be accurately diagnosed and treated with research supported, scientific evidenced-based interventions. This type of work is specialized and can only be delivered by specially trained professionals. Effective treatment very often demands interdisciplinary action which is simply not possible with regular school work or private tuition from a study centre.

What Do I Get For My Investment?

Items

- Initial Consultation (This appointment is billed separately)
- Full Diagnostic Literacy Assessment (Second Appointment)
- Feedback Consultation (This appointment is billed separately)
- Meeting With Relevant Staff at the CDN (if appropriate)
- Scoring and Diagnostic Literacy Report
- Step By Step Treatment Plan
- Letter/Report Back to Referring Practitioner
- Explanatory documentation prepared and posted to Website
- Written Referrals to Other Practitioners (if needed)

Internet Accessible or Take Home Items

- General Articles on Literacy and Learning
- Specific Articles Explaining Your Child's Difficulties
- Specific Handouts Explaining the Steps Outlined in the Treatment Plan
- Diagnostic Report
- Step By Step Treatment Plan
- Letter/Report Back to Referring Practitioner
- Written Referrals to Other Practitioners (if needed)
- Full Fee Disclosure of All Services Offered

For appointments and the latest information on fees and services can please call (07) 3010 3366



INITIAL CONSULTATION

The first consultation is held for two reasons:

- Firstly, it is the initial step in the three step assessment process. During this hour background information is gathered and existing reports are reviewed. Decisions are made about the type and nature of assessment still required and a preliminary treatment plan is formulated.
- Secondly, this consultation is useful in order to find out more about the assessment process and how your child can be assisted before making a decision to schedule an assessment.

This is worthwhile if:

- Your child has completed a considerable amount of assessment and you feel that further assessment may be unnecessary.
- You simply just wish to have previous reports viewed and commented on before a decision about further testing is made.

Please give at least 24 hours notice if you cannot keep your appointment.