

Neuropsychology

Our Neuropsychologists develop a breadth of information to support families whose children may be experiencing cognitive, learning, developmental, emotional or behavioural difficulties.

Why should my child have a Neuropsychological Assessment?

Children up to 16 years old are usually recommended or referred to see a Neuropsychologist for an assessment in order to provide a deep understanding of their:

- Memory
- Cognition or thinking skills
- Ability to learn
- Academic skills
- Development

This comprehensive assessment will then inform individualised recommendations and strategies to support your child in daily life. Due to the complex nature of the brain and how it can affect behaviour and emotions, a Neuropsychologist can also play an important part in exploring what may be contributing to behavioural or emotional difficulties.



What is being assessed?

A neuropsychological assessment can explore:

- Overall intellectual functioning (IQ)
- Attention and concentration
- Verbal skills; such as the ability to understand instructions, express themselves verbally, and reason or problem-solve with verbal information
- Visual skills; such as the ability to reason or problem-solve with visual information and form concepts/categories with visual information
- Memory and learning
- Academic skills; such as reading, comprehension, written expression, spelling and maths

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- Higher-level thinking skills; such as planning/organising, generating ideas, impulse control, inhibiting unwanted behaviours and switching flexibly from one idea to another.

What happens as part of the Neuropsychological Assessment process?

A Neuropsychological Assessment typically includes:

- In-depth interview of parent/s or carer/s to gain a comprehensive understanding of child's developmental and medical history
- Formal assessment tasks, activities and observations
- Scoring of assessment tasks
- Report writing
- Parent feedback session.

The assessment process takes place in a relaxed and comfortable manner, with weekly child or parent sessions over a five week period. Neuropsychologists are trained to work with children and families to ensure they are at ease throughout the process to make the experience positive and enjoyable.

The assessment time can vary depending on the child's concentration span, their age, what assessments are used and whether the child is easily tired and needs regular breaks. In total, the process takes approximately 14

hours, including 5 hours face-to-face with children and their families.

What will the results provide?

As the Neuropsychologist considers the child's age, history, strengths, difficulties and reason for referral, the results will provide highly individualised recommendations to support your child in everyday life.

Recommendations include strategies that teachers, parents and carers can use in daily life, as well as providing valuable information and strategies for other health professionals that your child may be seeing. A referral to other health professionals may also be recommended, possibly to see a Paediatrician, Clinical Psychologist, Occupational Therapist or Speech Pathologist. Results and recommendations are reviewed and discussed with the family in a feedback session.

How much does it cost?

For people paying independently, the total cost is \$2,000 for the five week assessment and report. For NDIS Participants with a plan that allows for a Neuropsychological Assessment, we charge the scheduled NDIS rate.

For more information contact:

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