

**Dyslexia Assessment: Information**

***What does this involve?***

I will complete a number of standardised tests with your child as well as some more informal assessments such as a test of free writing. This takes approximately four hours, but breaks will be taken as needed so the time scale is not definite. The tests aim to create a profile of strengths and areas for development.

***What do we get from the assessment?***

After the assessment, you will receive a comprehensive report. This will explain in detail your child’s strengths and will hopefully clarify the difficulties they are experiencing. The report will also contain a set of recommendations which should help to focus your child’s continuing literacy development.

***What are the time scales?***

Attached to this letter are two forms: one for you to fill in, and one for your child’s teacher to fill in. If you could please have these ready for the assessment day, as they form part of the assessment process.

After the assessment, please allow up to two weeks for the report to be written up and finalised. We can then set up a meeting where we go through the report and explain the next steps.

***What should I tell my child?***

It is up to you how much you tell your child about what is happening. I often say that I am here to do some jobs with them, and after I will be able to explain how best to help with school work / some of the things they find tricky.

***When should we arrange the test?***

You will know when your child is most receptive to working with an adult to complete ‘work.’ The tests are designed to be quite interactive, but a more accurate picture will be gained if the child is willing and happy to be working with me (e.g. it’s probably best if they aren’t missing a birthday party to work with me!)

I am happy to work around what works best for your child. Some options might be:

* Start immediately after breakfast and finish before lunch with a snack half way.
* Start immediately after lunch and then have a snack half way through.
* Split over two sessions; I will go out to take a lunch break and then return to finish the tests.
* Split over two days: if it will be a big problem for your child to work for a few hours, the tests can be split over two different days.

Please provide a suitable snack if needed, as I won’t get accurate results from a hungry child!

***Testing environments***

If the assessment is to be carried out at home, it is important that:

* There is a table with chairs to work at
* There are no distractions in the room (e.g. people walking through or pets can distract a child and therefore affect the test results)
* It is quiet
* Your child has some water
* There is a plug socket to plug in my CD player

I will have Lego and colouring in to use as a break between tests. If there is something else which works well for your child to wind down for five minutes then do provide it (but no electronics please).

If you wish to proceed with the assessment, please complete the Questionnaires attached in time for the assessment.

The cost of the assessment is £350, payable on or before the day of the assessment by cash or bank transfer.

Thank you

Abigail Bowman

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