



Cognitive Assessments at Oakdale

Oakdale offers a cognitive assessments service led by clinical psychologists. This guide will explain more about cognitive assessments.

What is a cognitive assessment?

Cognitive assessments are formal assessments that aim to identify areas of strength and difficulty.

Using the information from the assessment, practitioners can identify whether someone has a learning disability, is performing at an age-expected level or is performing above their age-expected level.

What is the process?

1. Referral

You can use the form on our website.

2. Gathering information

We will ask for information from you and any education setting that is involved.

3. Assessment

This appointment is to complete a formal, standardised assessment using one of the approved tools for assessing cognitive abilities. The appointment takes place with one of our skilled assistant psychologists. This might take place over more than one appointment.

4. Clinical Team Discussion

The clinical team will meet and review all the information provided alongside observations and the outcomes of the assessment appointment.

5. Feedback Appointment

The clinical psychologist and assistant psychologist will meet with you to share the outcome and recommendations. A written report will follow.





What standardised assessment tools do you use at Oakdale?

For age 2yrs 6 months to age 7yrs 7 months:

Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale Intelligence (WPPSI-IV)

For ages 6yrs 0 months to 16 yrs 11 months: Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children (WISC-V)

For ages 16yrs 0 months to 90 yrs:

Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale (WAIS-IV)

The Wechsler Intelligence Scales assess cognitive abilities including concept formation, visual spatial processing, inductive reasoning, working memory, and speed of information processing.

They can be completed without any reading or writing and the time and number of appointments required to complete this assessment depends on the age and concentration ability of the person being assessed.

Whilst these assessments provide an overall IQ score, this overall score is not as important as understanding the profile of an individual's cognitive strengths and weaknesses on a holistic basis. For this reason, cognitive assessments are always interpreted by an experienced psychologist.

We also use the [Adaptive Behaviour Assessment Scale \(ABAS-3\)](#) which is used to assess the functional skills necessary for daily living. This includes assessing a wide range of skill areas including: communication, community use, self-care, leisure, social, motor, functional academics, self-direction and health and safety.

What are the benefits of a cognitive assessment?

By identifying the challenges someone is having, a greater understanding can be achieved and appropriate help put in place to ensure that they achieve their full potential.

These assessments may also illustrate areas which warrant further investigation by another professional, e.g. an occupational therapist, speech and language therapist, psychiatrist or educational psychologist.

How do I refer?

Go to the Self Funded Assessments area on our Neurodevelopmental Assessment Services page: <https://www.oakdalegroup.org/neurodevelopmental-assessment-services/>