



## Students with Disability Assessment Service

### Assessments Australia Service Update

**April 2023**

This newsletter provides key information about the role of our service in Disability Inclusion, as well as links to resources developed to assist schools in understanding factors which may impact on a student's presentation at school.

If you have further questions, please contact us by phone on (03) 9678 5100 or via email to [psd-as@assessments.com](mailto:psd-as@assessments.com).

### Resources

Assessments Australia staff have developed additional resources to highlight the difficulties a student might experience, and how these might impact on their learning and participation in school.

A pre-recorded webinar about what an intellectual disability is and is not can be found by using this link: [Understanding intellectual developmental disorder](#). This 30 minute webinar, written and recorded by Colleen Goulding (Clinical Manager - Psychology), will help you determine if a referral to our service is indicated.

Many of the students referred to our service have complex communication needs, which is often abbreviated to CCN. Our [Complex Communication Needs Information Sheet](#) provides an overview of what CCN is, why communication is important, ways to support students with CCN, assessment of students with CCN, and links to find out more information.

Other resources developed by our team, and available to you include:

- [Assessing adaptive behaviour using the Vineland](#) (webinar)
- [Nonverbal cognitive assessment FAQs](#)
- [FAQs about Assessments Australia's role](#)

### Assessments for Disability Inclusion

Assessments Australia provides cognitive and language assessments for students and assists schools to identify and understand the educational support needs of students with an intellectual disability or severe language disorder with high functional needs.

Schools that have transitioned to Disability Inclusion may continue to refer students to the assessment service in order to establish whether a student has an intellectual disability or severe language disorder with high functional needs.

Cognitive and language assessments are not required to determine eligibility for a Disability Inclusion Profile, however may continue to assist schools and families to better understand a student's educational needs, and may inform the Disability Inclusion Profile.

The assessment service also provides cognitive assessments to support specialist school enrolment processes for students with intellectual disability. These assessments provide evidence to address the eligibility criteria for the Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD) category of Intellectual Disability, and may be used to support applications to the PSD or the Specialist School Enrolment Verification Service for Disability Inclusion schools.

Assessments Australia are not a general assessment service. We do not provide assessments or reports to meet NDIS requirements, or provide diagnoses other than intellectual disability or severe language disorder.

If you have any questions in relation to [Disability Inclusion Profile](#) or [Specialist School Enrolment Verification](#) processes, please contact your Regional Disability Coordinator or Regional Implementation Team for further guidance.

## School Dashboard

All schools have access to their own personalised PSD-AS Dashboard, and are encouraged to use this to check on the current status and progress of referrals that have been made to the PSD-AS.

School users can access this information online at any time by clicking the button below.

[Log in to School Dashboard](#)

**Want some more information about Intellectual Disability and Severe Language Disorders?**

**After some easy to read handouts for parents?**

**After some more tips and strategies for working with students with additional needs?**

Visit our [website](#) for more resources to support students at your school, and for families to understand a student's needs.

Monash University in conjunction with the Victorian Department of Education also have a great website with information about a wide range of disabilities, and evidence based strategies for schools and families. The All Play Learn website can be accessed [here](#).

## Key Dates

**6th April 2023** - Term 1 ends

**24 April 2023** - Term 2 begins

**25 April 2023** - Anzac Day public holiday

**23rd June 2023** - Term 2 ends

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W: [Students with disability assessment service](#)

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