



Dyslexia Support South

where hope meets learning

by Learning Differences Aotearoa Trust

Dyslexia Assessment Options Southland 2022

Dyslexia Support South has collated information of the dyslexia assessment options available in Southland for parents, caregivers and schools to use.

Dyslexia Support South advises users of this form to exercise their own judgement when selecting an assessment. It is the user's responsibility to determine if the providers of the assessment are police vetted. While the information on this form is periodically updated, responsibility for accuracy lies with the providers of the assessments.

The information provided is for reference purposes only. Dyslexia Support South is not endorsing any of these assessment options and have not investigated any claims made by the providers.

Updated October 2021

General Assessment information

Assessing for different types of learning differences

Dyslexia is the most common form of learning difference that is assessed.

Assessing for dyscalculia is happening but it is not as common in NZ so there are less options available.

Assessing for dyspraxia requires two different assessments as follows;

- Global dyspraxia – one assessment for a specific learning difficulty (this is the one for dyslexia) plus an assessment from an Occupational Therapist.
- Verbal dyspraxia - one assessment for a specific learning difficulty (this is the one for dyslexia) plus an assessment from a Speech Therapist.

Some assessors who are completing the general dyslexia assessment will look at other learning difficulties and processing disorders that may be impacting on your child's learning and advise you of any further follow up that may be required.

Other important notes:

Always check with your school if an assessment is needed. Some schools have processes in place to support the child and may do this without you needing to get a report. The person to contact at the school is the SENCO (Special Education Needs Coordinator). If your school does not have a SENCO contact the teacher who is in charge of children with learning difficulties. Ask the SENCO what support they will provide for your child if you get a report completed and a learning difficulty is identified.

From 2020 some schools will have access to Learning support Coordinators. To find out more specific information for your school contact us on 027 201 6951 or at support@learningdifferences.org.nz

Special Assessment Conditions (SAC's)

These are accommodations such as extra time and reader/writers that students can get to help them with NCEA exams. The school applies to NZQA to get these accommodations (they are not guaranteed). As part of this application process the school will use an assessment report. It is important that you check with the school what their process is. There are two available. The first one uses a C Grade assessment. The second option is called the alternative pathway and requires an assessment report (some schools can even do these themselves) plus other evidence that the school gathers. Discuss with the schools SENCO what their process is for gathering data to apply for SAC'S.

Assessor	Karen Wards	Learning Differently/The Reading Room
Assessment of ...	Dyslexia.	Dyslexia. Irlens, Specific Learning Difficulties
Grade of assessments	C Grade. Is an identification of dyslexia.	Is an early indication of being on the Dyslexia spectrum.
Will consider impact of other learning difficulties	Can give ideas about dyscalculia	Such as Dysgraphia, APD, ADHD, Slow Processing Disorder, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, Indicator for Maths Learning Anxiety, Irlen Syndrome, Auditory Processing Disorder and Speech
Time required to complete	Takes approximately two - three hours. The sessions can be split so as not to tire the child	Takes approximately two sessions of 1 - 2 hrs each
Type of delivery	Manual - written and verbal	Manual – written, verbal and computer
Programme/s used	Woodcock Johnson III	Lucid Software, Part of Woodcock Johnson, Kiwi Phonics, Read-Write-Spell
Experience	Has been a primary teacher	15 Years in business.
Qualifications	B.A. PGDA Dip Tchg, NZCER Test User Reg Level A, B, Csp and C	Irlen's Screener, Phonics and Learning Advisor, Lucid Software operator
Cost and how to pay	\$350	\$300.00. Payment by Eftpos, Cash, Direct Credit
Venue for assessing	Dunedin Motel in Invercargill. Advised at time of appointment	Learning Differently/ The Reading Room premises 410 Yarrow Street, Invercargill
What you can expect from the report	Written report that states if the child is dyslexic and general recommendations for schools	Written report within three weeks that states if the child is indicating dyslexia and general recommendations for schools
Can be used for SAC's*	Yes	Yes
Contact details	The best option is to text on 0277160186 Phone: 03 4672408 or Email: karendwards@gmail.com	Learning Differently/ The Reading Room 410 Yarrow Street Invercargill Ph 03 2176871 Cell 0212544438 Email: office@thereadingroom.nz www.thereadingroom.nz
Other	Is not connected to further tutoring	Either an assessment by parents, referrals by school or incorporated in a Tutoring programme.
Availability	Southland/Dunedin	Invercargill/Southland

* Special Assessment Conditions for NCEA exams

Assessor	SPELD	On Track Learning
Assessment of ...	<p>SPELD NZ diagnostic assessments from \$575.00 for initial full diagnostic assessment (cognitive and learning) by a qualified professional.</p> <p>SPELD NZ is a nationwide not-for-profit organisation that provides assessment, individualised one-on-one tuition and support for children and adults with dyslexia and other specific learning disabilities (SLD).</p> <p>SPELD NZ assessors work with primary and secondary, tertiary and adult learners and their reports are accepted by NZQA for SAC (Special Assessment Conditions) for NCEA exams.</p> <p>Assessment can be face to face from age 6 and above or via Zoom if over the age of 10.</p> <p>To access SPELD NZ services, there is a membership fee of \$100 per family or \$50 for those with a Community Services Card.</p> <p>SPELD NZ continually fundraises to help subsidise the cost of assessment and lessons for those with evidence of low income.</p> <p>Contact SPELD NZ at southern@speld.org.nz or 0800 773536. A free information pack and all the membership forms can be downloaded on every page of the SPELD NZ website www.speld.org.nz</p>	Dyslexia.
Grade of assessments		Indication of dyslexia
Will consider impact of other learning difficulties		Such as dysgraphia, Asperger's, autism etc
Will consider impact of processing disorders		Irlen Syndrome Auditory Processing Disorder Speech
Time required to complete		Takes approximately two - three hours.
Type of delivery		Manual – written, verbal and computer presentation.
Programme/s used		British Dyslexia Screening Test and Woodcock Johnson assessments for word attack, word identification, comprehension.
Experience		Experience in Cellfield Intervention since 2007
Qualifications		B. Ed., Dip Tch, Certificate as a trained Cellfield practitioner and licensee.
Cost and how to pay		\$2099.00: Part A \$250.00 (Written report) Part B \$1839.00 (Intervention)
Venue for assessing		On Track Learning, 64b Victoria Avenue, Avenal, Invercargill
What you can expect from the report		Written report within two weeks that includes results of the British Dyslexia Screening test, Woodcock assessments, A registered optometrist's examination for foveal eccentricities and instabilities. Approximately 1 page long.
Can be used for SAC's*		N/A
Contact details		Patria Kerr Director, On Track Learning 03 214 4181
Other	Woodcock Johnson assessments can be undertaken separately to the Cellfield program (\$100.00). Cost of Cellfield program is then discounted accordingly. Reduced cost of further tuition after Cellfield intervention.	
Availability	Invercargill	

* Special Assessment Conditions for NCEA exams