

PSYCHOMETRIC ASSESSMENT SPECIALISTS

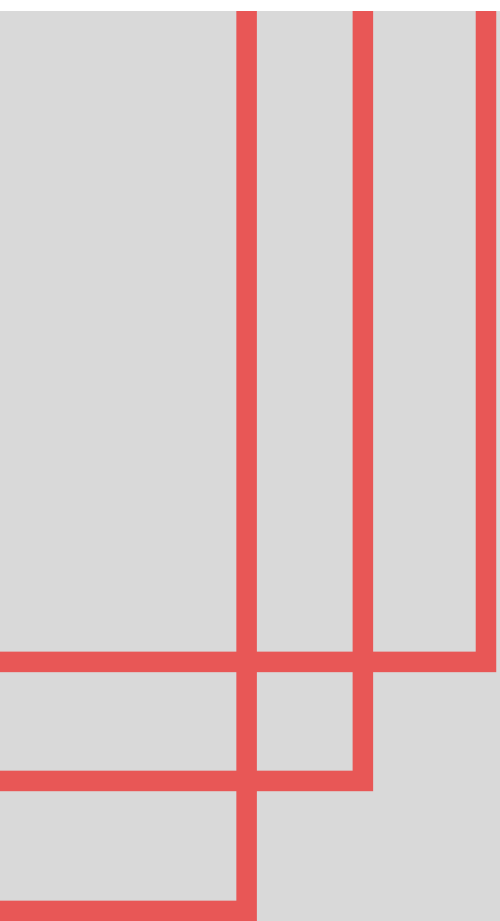
What is Psychometric assessment?

Psychometric assessment refers to the use of scientific methods to measure an individual's cognitive potential, strengths and difficulties, as well as behavioural style, adjustment and personality traits.

Why do we assess?

We assess in order to gather information about an individual's psychosocial and cognitive / educational / work place functioning. The need for this may arise when we want to make recommendations on how to assist an individual in realizing their full potential by identifying possible barriers to learning, personal functioning or social-adjustment. These barriers may include concentration problems interfering with performance or relationships, impulsivity leading to psychosocial problems and areas in the functioning of the individual that would benefit from some intervention. We also use psychometric assessments to guide individuals to identify and build on their own personal strengths.

Tests are administered using iPADS and the latest digital technology. For Autism diagnosis, we use the widely recognised ADOS.



What information will I get from a psychometric assessment and how will it be to my benefit?

The information gathered will depend on the reason of referral and the media implemented. The psychologist will guide you through the process and will include the appropriate media.

Examples of information to be gained;

- An indication of current cognitive potential and functioning. This will include information on Verbal Comprehension, Visual Spatial abilities, Fluid Reasoning, Working Memory and Processing Speed. This information is necessary to diagnose learning problems when needed for educational accommodations, plan interventions in order to reach potential, identify giftedness and building on current strengths.
- An indication of current cognitive strengths and weaknesses to inform decisions on eligibility, placement objectives and interventions.
- Information on neurological functioning and associated behavioural patterns, which can have a detrimental effect on psychosocial and classroom / workplace functioning.
- Information on mental health, social adjustment and personality traits.



The benefits of psychometric assessment include;

- Identifying areas where interventions will be beneficial.
- Planning of interventions.
- Having a realistic expectation of cognitive potential.
- Building on existing strengths.
- Identifying at risk individuals and implementing support.
- Determining degree of adjustment in order to provide sufficient support.
- Diagnosis in order to acquire the correct support and interventions.
- Increased understanding of behaviour and performance.
- Ability to apply for funding, accommodations and special support.

Psychometric assessment can assist and screen for/diagnosing;

- Intellectual disability.
- Intellectual giftedness.
- Traumatic brain injury.
- Barriers to learning and learning difficulties.
- Autism.
- ADD / ADHD.
- Depression and anxiety.
- Oppositional defiant disorder and conduct disorder.



How does the testing process work?

Step 1 ...

The initial intake interview where background information will be retrieved, relevant documentation perused and reason for referral discussed. During this interview the psychologist will decide on the most appropriate test battery to administer. This interview is with parents or guardians only in the case of school going children.

Step 2 ...

The test administration. For optimal results, tests are administered in the mornings to eliminate mental fatigue and optimize concentration. A three hour time slot will be booked for the assessment. The actual duration of the assessment will depend on various factors including the individual working speed, age, attention span and progression. Breaks will be provided. Kindly send a drink and snack with your child. The assessment is done with the child only, parents can relax in our waiting area. Under specific circumstances, parts of the assessment might be done with the parents in the room, although this can cause distraction and is not recommended. All is done to ensure that the client feels comfortable and for the atmosphere to be relaxed. The assessment will be partially done on an iPad .

Step 3 ...

Feedback session and discussion of results. This again is a parent session. Recommendations will be made and interventions planned. A written report is provided.



For more information or to book a consultation
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