



Students with Disability Assessment Service

Term 2 Assessment Service Update

Please disregard the update sent earlier this morning titled 'May 2024'

May 2026

Welcome to the Term 2 newsletter from the Students with Disability Assessment Service (SwD-AS).

In this edition you will find information on the following topics:

- Referrals for future students commencing school in 2027
- Confirming appointments
- When to refer to the assessment service
- Schools' Dashboard
- Where to find more information

Referrals for future students commencing school in 2027

Referrals for students commencing school in 2027, including Prep/Foundation students, are accepted from **11 May**.

Referrals are accepted from schools only. We are unable to accept referrals from preschools or parents. Schools should liaise with early childhood settings to complete the teacher referral form and Vineland-3 assessment and cover sheet. Please mention to our staff at the time of referral if a student is not currently attending an early childhood setting.

Assessments will commence from **1 June**, when referral documents have been received and marked as complete.

Confirming appointments

It is recommended that schools contact parents/carers one to two days before the scheduled assessment date to confirm the appointment. Interpreters should also be confirmed with the interpreting service where needed. This will help to minimise any delays if the appointment needs to be rescheduled due to student absence or interpreter issues. It is also important that students are well on the day of the assessment and have taken any regular medication.

Schools are requested to contact the assessor or our office on **(03) 9678 5100** as soon as they are aware an assessment cannot proceed as planned.

When to refer to the assessment service

We accept referrals where evidence suggests the student is likely to meet criteria for intellectual developmental disorder, developmental language disorder or childhood apraxia of speech, and the student has high functional needs across a range of school related activities.

Referrals to our service are not recommended for students with an existing assessment. In some cases, an updated assessment (not usually within 2 years) may be warranted, for example if:

- there has been a change in the student's support needs or circumstances
- previous assessment results have been inconsistent or inconclusive
- a new assessment is needed to support enrolment or an enrolment review for a specialist school (intellectual disability).

We do not accept language assessment referrals for students with conditions known to be associated with language difficulties, such as autism, intellectual developmental disorder, sensorineural hearing loss, or other genetic conditions such as Down syndrome. Assessments for these students may be available through other services, such as Student Support Services, or the team of health professionals supporting the student.

Schools' Dashboard

All schools have access to their own personalised Dashboard. This offers a quick and efficient option to check on the progress and current status of referrals. You are welcome to follow up with a phone call or email if you need any more information. Please contact us if you do not have access to the Dashboard or need any help.

[Log in to the Schools' Dashboard](#)

Are you interested in more information?

Visit our [website](#) for more information about:

- how our service works
- intellectual developmental disorder and language disorder
- Frequently Asked Questions and other useful documents

You might also be interested in watching these webinars about intellectual developmental disorder and assessment of adaptive behaviour using the Vineland-3:

[Understanding intellectual developmental disorder](#)

[Assessing adaptive behaviour using the Vineland-3](#)

Would you like to contact us?

T: 03 9678 5100

E: SwD@Assessments.com.au

W: [Assessment Service for Students with Disability - AKG Australia](#)



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