

## Cognitive Assessment Process

Sometimes a child needs to have a Cognitive Assessment before they start school.

In State Primary Schools, the Cognitive Assessment will generally take place in term 3 or 4 of the year before the child begins Prep.

This is usually part of the funding process of the Program for Students with a Disability (PSD).

In **Catholic Schools** the Cognitive Assessment will usually take place after the child has begun school (Term 1 or 2).

This is the Cognitive Assessment Process that is followed in **State Schools**:

1. Parents **enrol** child in a state school (usually by or in Term 2 in the year prior to starting Prep)
2. Parents, kinder teacher or key worker/therapist **discuss** with **Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD) Coordinator** at the school the need for a Cognitive Assessment.
3. Parents, kinder teacher or key worker/therapist provide to the school some **evidence** to support the need/eligibility for Cognitive Assessment (this can be a Brigance screening, report from therapist or letter from paediatrician).
4. The school will send a **referral to Assessments Australia**, who will in turn send out some score sheets for the **Vineland Adaptive Behaviour Scale** to the school which need to be completed at kinder/home and returned to the school.
5. **If eligible** based on the scores of the Vineland, then the school will proceed with the **Cognitive Assessment**. This will usually take place at the school with a psychologist from Assessments Australia. There is no cost for families.

Further information can be accessed through the Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD) Guide on the DET (Department of Education and Training) website. The PSD Guide also contains information about eligibility for funding and further information on the funding process that State Schools follow.

For more information contact the Kindergarten Inclusion Support Coordinator at Gateways via [Contact Us](#) or by phoning 5221 2984.