



OAKLEIGH GRAMMAR

DEVELOPING FUTURE LEADERS

ARROWSMITH SUITABILITY FORM

The following checklist is a tool to determine whether you/your child's learning difficulties are typical of those addressed by the Arrowsmith Programme. While each participating school will have its own enrolment and admissions process, this checklist can help you determine Arrowsmith's suitability for you/your child.

NOTE:

Some of the descriptors below might also sound familiar to the experiences of individuals with autism, developmental delay, brain injury or illness, or emotional or behavioural disorders. Please note these features are beyond the scope of the Arrowsmith Programme and cannot be addressed by the Arrowsmith Programme.

DETERMINING ARROWSMITH SUITABILITY CHECKLIST:

The most common cognitive areas and their associated difficulties are listed below. Please check off any characteristics that resonant with you/your child's experience. If completing this from your own perspective, please consider both your current experience and any recollections from your school career.

Please note that only a few examples of each cognitive difficulty are listed here. For further examples of these cognitive difficulties, please consult the detailed descriptions on the website:

<http://www.arrowsmithschool.org/arrowsmithprogram-background/ld-chart.html>

MOTOR SYMBOL SEQUENCING

- Messy handwriting, and/or neat but effortful handwriting
- Miscopying letters or numbers, making "careless" errors
- Difficulty completing written timed tasks
- Losing place when reading; misreading a known word; skipping letters, words or punctuation

SYMBOL RELATIONS

- Below grade level reading comprehension; difficulties with symbolism, metaphors
- Difficulty with logic puzzles e.g. Sally is taller than Joe but smaller than Mary
- Understanding conceptual material found in mathematics and science
- Difficulty considering another point of view, seeming "inflexible"

MEMORY FOR INFORMATION OR INSTRUCTION

- Difficulty remembering information, instructions, details from conversations
- Difficulty remembering details heard or read
- Appears "forgetful" or irresponsible

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PREDICATIVE SPEECH

- Communication can be non-sequential or incomplete
- Difficulty learning and following procedures
- Trouble putting thoughts into own words

BROCA'S SPEECH PRONUNCIATION

- Difficulty learning to read through phonics-based programmes
- Mispronounces words, or avoids new or unusual words
- Difficulty learning foreign languages

SYMBOLIC THINKING

- Trouble keeping attention to the important details of a task
- Tendency to be distracted by irrelevant information or fall off-task
- Problems being self-directed; self-organized; taking initiative; completing tasks

SYMBOL RECOGNITION

- Difficulty learning to read and spell, trouble recognizing words seen before
- Slowed reading speed because each word appears 'new'

LEXICAL MEMORY

- Trouble learning the names of things like days of the week or colours
- Difficulty building vocabulary

ARTIFACTUAL THINKING

- Difficulty interpreting facial expressions, body language , voice tone
- Impulsive tendencies – jumping in without considering the consequences
- Passive tendencies– difficulty in self advocating or asking for help
- Appearing to lack “common sense”

OBJECT RECOGNITION

- Difficulty visually recognizing and locating objects
- Trouble remembering landmarks, faces, places they've been before
- Trouble with games such as Where's Waldo, Memory, puzzles

SUPPLEMENTARY MOTOR

- Relying on fingers and calculators to count
- Difficulty calculating change
- Difficulty learning multiplication tables and number facts Difficulty with time management

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Thank you for completing this checklist.

The Arrowsmith Programme is designed for individuals who are of average to above average intelligence and have any number of the cognitive difficulties described in this checklist. If you/your child fit this profile, the Arrowsmith Programme is suitable. Please feel free to use this checklist to approach a school offering the Arrowsmith Programme. Each school will have their own enrolment criteria and process which will include conversations between the family and the school and the sharing of information about your/your child's learning history. **Please note an Arrowsmith assessment is neither required nor available to determine suitability.** While the Arrowsmith Programme cannot guarantee admissions into a school's Programme, this completed checklist can be helpful in determining suitability.

For further information on the Arrowsmith Programme please visit www.arrowsmithschool.org

Yours Sincerely



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