

## Frequently Asked Questions Next Challenge Teacher Assessment Tools



"The best opportunity for  
your child to succeed."

### What are the Next Challenge Teacher Assessment Tools?

Next Challenge publishes four Teacher Assessment Tools that help teachers profile;

- whole of class developmental skills
- skills needing more development for small groups of children within the classroom
- to identify children who may benefit from referral to a therapist

### What skills do the tests investigate?

Each of the Teacher Assessment Tools screen skills in the essential areas children need for future educational success;

- Teacher Assessment of **Communication**: oral language and speech sounds skills (Kindergarten and Pre-primary versions).
- Teacher Assessment of **Movement**: gross motor, stability and posture skills (Kindergarten version)
- Teacher Assessment of **Handwriting** -prewriting and early writing skills (Kindergarten)

### What training do I need to use these tests?

A DVD accompanies each test and demonstrates how to administer the test. It is strongly recommended that teachers using the test for the 1st time watch the DVD. Teachers who have previously administered the test may wish to refresh their skills by watching the DVD.

DVDs can be purchased on their own if schools already have a test.

### How are the tests scored?

After administering the test there are two scoring options. (Note: teachers may choose to test all of their class or just those children they are most concerned about.)

Teacher assessment tools must be scored by

- A) the appropriate therapist as stated in the test manual

OR

- B) by a teacher who has been certified as a scorer of the specific test.

Next Challenge provides scoring and comprehensive reports for each of the tests at a cost per child. Please contact Next Challenge for current pricing.

### Why do you recommend therapist score the test?

Next Challenge considers that it is essential to maintain the high standard of accuracy of the scoring test. Therapists use their professional knowledge about skill development while scoring and monitor the accuracy of the tests for ongoing improvement of the standard.

Additionally the scoring of the test can take time for less familiar people. Next Challenge therapist's are trained to score and report on tests results efficiently and return them to the school within 2 weeks. With the need for teacher time to be maximized working with children in the classroom, Next Challenge provides this administrative efficiency to complement the schools program.

### Why do I need to be certified before I can score the test?

Next Challenge considers that it is essential to maintain the high standard of accuracy of the scoring test. Certification provides teachers with an appreciation of the purpose, design and essential scoring rules to maintain this high standard.

### How can I be certified as a scorer?

Teachers can be certified as a test scorer by attending a two hour certification training session through Next Challenge. Teachers must contact Next Challenge to arrange a session.

Teachers must then submit a number of test forms that they have scored to the training therapists to demonstrate their proficiency at scoring. Certification as a scorer is provided following successful completion of this phase.

**How many of the Teacher Assessment Tests can I be certified as a scorer?**

As many as you need - but each has its own required training sessions and test form checking process.

For more information please see the **FAQ** for the **Teacher Assessment of Communication**