

Is an Assessment the Right Next Step for Your Family?

Families come to assessment from two very different places.

Some are trying to understand why learning feels harder than it should. Others are making a major school decision and want to make sure they're building it around who their child actually is — not just what they've achieved.

This checklist helps you figure out which one applies — and what to do next.



Meet Becky 

“When I assess a student, I'm not watching them take a test. I'm working with them — introducing something new, asking questions, noticing what happens when something is hard. I want to see academics in action: not just what a child knows, but how they think.”

Becky Reback,
Director of Assessment &
School Placement Advisor

If something isn't working

If these feel familiar, an assessment can help identify what's actually going on.

Academic patterns

- Grades slipping despite real effort
- Test scores that don't reflect classroom performance
- Inconsistency across subjects without a clear reason

Learning habits

- Homework taking much longer than it should
- Frustration or resistance that feels disproportionate
- Difficulty starting, sustaining, or completing work independently

Attention and organization

- Trouble staying focused — especially on demanding tasks
- Disorganized, forgetful, losing track of assignments or materials
- Difficulty managing time or transitioning between tasks

When two or more of these feel familiar:

Assessment helps identify root causes, whether that's a specific skills gap, an executive function pattern, a processing difference, or something worth exploring further. In more than half the families we work with, the presenting challenge turns out to be connected to something deeper: a cognitive pattern that, once named, is genuinely addressable.

If you're making a school decision

These aren't red flags — they're questions worth answering before a major decision.

Questions worth asking before you build a school list:

- Do you have a clear picture of how your child learns — not just what they've achieved?
- Do you know whether your child does best with direct instruction or more open-ended, inquiry-based learning?
- Do you know how your child handles new material, feedback, or academic pressure in real time?
- Have you thought about whether your top-choice school's environment matches how your child is actually wired?
- Would it help to have a professional read on fit before applications go in?

If any of these feel uncertain:

Assessment gives school placement families a learning profile they can actually use — one that informs the school list, supports the application strategy, and means you're not making a major decision based on reputation alone.

The next step is a conversation.

Schedule a complimentary 15-minute call with Becky Reback, our Director of Assessment, to talk through where your family is and which assessment makes sense.

Whether evaluating skills, like reading and math, or seeking to understand how your child learns and processes information, our assessment tools will help you make confident decisions about what's next.

Clarity starts here.

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