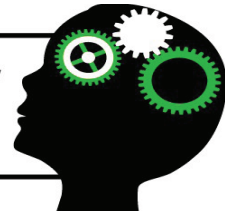


Northern Rivers Neuropsychology

paediatric practice



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Does your child struggle in their lives because they think/behave differently?

In such instances children often begin to lag behind. They lose confidence, can become anxious or depressed, and develop behaviours which make the situation worse.

Do you feel like giving up on expectations that your child can shine or flourish and just hope they can “get by” and “fit in” with some support?

It is frustrating for parents, teachers, health workers and of course, the child themselves, when generic systems of learning do not seem to work. Assessments, answers and solutions can be delayed, and some kids just “fall through the cracks”.

Early intervention is crucial – you need to act before attitudes and behaviours become cemented.

Children's brains are incredibly “plastic” - this is the time in their lives when most neural changes are made. Many connections and pathways are formed, strengthened, adapted, and those unused are “pruned” for efficiency. Skills build upon one another and now is a key time to support the development of complex thinking (eg flexibility, planning, empathy, mindfulness) in the frontal lobe.

I am a registered, insured and endorsed Clinical Neuropsychologist working in Lismore.

Neuropsychology is the study of the brain and behaviour, grounded in scientific roots, with historic and current links to psychology and neurology. Traditionally such professionals work from within the Health system, though rarely in rural areas.

How does it work?

Reasons for referral may range from academic difficulties and/or unusual behaviour, to suspicion of a condition which effects the brain/thinking. Referrals are accepted from parents/guardians, schools, GPs, paediatricians, neurologists and other health workers.

I can determine the characteristics of the system within which your child works. I will help them, you and their teachers to see how they can get the most from their brain to meet their current needs and interests. I do this by combining information from you and the school, and through observing your child's behaviour and performance in standardised tests (eg pen and paper tasks, arranging blocks, listening tasks). You will gain a better understanding of how your child's mind is working and of their mental strengths. Neural pathways will connect as your child completes tasks in their own way and try new activities to stimulate parts of their brain. They will feel a sense of achievement, and will make choices reflecting confidence, knowledge, and courage.