

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE ASSESSMENT REVIEW



Phonological Assessment Battery (PhAB)

Age Range	6 years to 14 years 11 months
Assesses	The PhAB assesses phonological processing skills. This is the ability to process sounds in spoken language. Awareness and sensitivity to the sounds in language is acknowledged to be an important factor in reading ability. £119.99 + VAT - Complete Set (contains Manual + 10 Record Forms) £17.99 + VAT - Record Forms (pack of 10)
	LTT.99 + VAT - Necold Forms (pack of 10)
Recommended Uses	 Intended to be used with children whose literacy progress is causing concern. Establishes whether a child is experiencing significant phonological processing difficulties by providing a profile of their phonological skills. To enable schools to have information to support children with phonological difficulties – which may be underpinning their reading, spelling and writing work. To inform the development of appropriate interventions/individual plans. It can also be used to assess the impact of intervention programmes. Can be used with children who have English as an additional language.
Who can use it	Speech and Language Therapists, Educational Psychologists, experienced ASfL Teachers.
Time to	30-40 minutes should be allowed for administration of all 6 tests.
Administer	Younger children tend to require more explanation, but the tests can generally be discontinued sooner. The test is administered individually.
Components	It comprises six tests of phonological processing including
	There is an optional supplementary test – Alliteration with Pictures.
Evaluation	 Quick, user-friendly and easy to administer. It provides education practitioners with a good standardised assessment which provides unique information that is not available from other standardised tests of reading and spelling. Of particular value is the fact that the PhAB looks to assess

- different aspects of phonological development, including phonological awareness, phonological production speed and phonological fluency. This can help teachers to identify the specific aspects of difficulty which a child may be experiencing, and as a result inform their intervention plans/ strategies.
- The PhAB also provides a very systematic way of assessing the 'hunches' which teachers may hold through their observations of working with children in class; and for establishing whether a child is experiencing significant processing difficulties.
- The inclusion of the Fluency (Semantic) test which is a non-phonological test is also a valuable aspect of the PhAB as it enables comparisons to be made between a non-phonological fluency measure (involving retrieval of meaning from memory) and the other phonological fluency tests.
- There is also a Supplementary Test (Alliteration with Pictures)
 which can be used if children are experiencing significant
 difficulties with the Alliteration Test.
- As many of the children who are administered the PhAB are likely to experience reading difficulties, the Non-Word Reading Test should be administered as the last test.
- Prior to consideration of using the PhAB it is vital to ascertain whether there are any concerns with the child's hearing.
- Scoring the PhAB is straightforward.
- The Record Form is easy to use and score and provides ample space for noting additional comments and observations.