

October 2018

**Drumcondra Spatial and Abstract Reasoning Test - Computer-based Version
Standardisation Study – First Year – October/November 2018**

Dear Parent,

The Educational Research Centre (a Statutory Body under Section 54 of the 1998 Education Act) is currently developing a new computer-based version of the Drumcondra Spatial and Abstract Reasoning Test for first-year students. The purpose of the tests is to identify students' strengths and weaknesses in spatial and abstract reasoning. When completed, the tests should provide useful feedback to teachers, students and their parents.

An important part of developing the tests is to gather data on which the tests can be normed and scaled. Your child's school has kindly agreed to assist us with this work. First-year students in selected classes, including your child's class, will be asked to complete the test on a specified day in October/November.

We believe that participation in the standardisation study will benefit the students involved. Feedback will be sent to the school afterwards. Testing will take just over an hour and will occur during the school day.

Please be assured that all information about your child's performance on the tests will be kept confidential, and will only be made available to the school. Moreover, in line with GDPR requirements, students will be able to withdraw their data up to November 30th, 2018. All data associated with the study (names of students, gender etc.) will be deleted after February 28th, 2019, unless schools request that the data be retained for use at a later date. If you would like further information about the standardisation study, please do not hesitate to contact me at (01) 8065227.

Please contact the school directly if you need to discuss your child's participation.

Thank you for your help.



Gerry Shiel

Research Fellow