Arrowsmith PROGRAM®
Strengthening Learning Capacities®

 The following checklist is a tool to determine whether you/your child's learning difficulties are typical of those addressed by the Arrowsmith Program. While each participating school will have its own enrolment and admissions process, this checklist can help you determine Arrowsmith's suitability for you/your child.

Note:
Some of the descriptors below might also sound familiar to the experiences of individuals with autism, developmental delay, brain injury or illness, or emotional or behavioural disorders. Please note these features are beyond the scope of the Arrowsmith Program and cannot be addressed by the Arrowsmith Program.

DETERMINING ARROWSMITH SUITABILITY CHECKLIST:

The most common cognitive functions and their associated difficulties are listed below. Please check off any characteristics that resonant with you/your child's experience. If completing this from your own perspective, please consider both your current experience and any recollections from your school career.

Please note that only a few examples of each cognitive difficulty are listed here. For further examples of these cognitive difficulties, please consult the Chart of Learning Outcomes and the detailed descriptions on the website: Learning Difficulties Addressed

Motor Symbol Sequencing
○ Messy handwriting, and/or neat but effortful handwriting
○ Miscopying letters or numbers, making "careless" errors
○ Difficulty completing written timed tasks
○ Losing place when reading; misreading a known word; skipping letters, words or punctuation

Symbol Relations
○ Below grade level reading comprehension; difficulties with symbolism, metaphors
○ Difficulty with logic puzzles eg. Sally is taller than Joe but smaller than Mary
○ Understanding conceptual material found in mathematics and science
○ Difficulty considering another point of view, seeming "inflexible"

Memory for Information or Instruction
○ Difficulty remembering information, instructions, details from conversations
○ Difficulty remembering details heard or read
○ Appears "forgetful" or irresponsible

Predicative Speech
○ Communication can be non-sequential or incomplete
○ Difficulty learning and following procedures
○ Trouble putting thoughts into own words

Broca's Speech Pronunciation
○ Difficulty learning to read through phonics-based programs
○ Mispronounces words, or avoids new or unusual words
○ Difficulty learning foreign languages

Symbolic Thinking
○ Trouble keeping attention to the important details of a task
○ Tendency to be distracted by irrelevant information or fall off-task
○ Problems being self-directed; self-organized; taking initiative; completing tasks

Symbol Recognition
○ Difficulty learning to read and spell, trouble recognizing words seen before
○ Slowed reading speed because each word appears 'new'

Lexical Memory
○ Trouble learning the names of things like days of the week or colours
○ Difficulty building vocabulary

Artifactual Thinking
○ Difficulty interpreting facial expressions, body language , voice tone
○ Impulsive tendencies – jumping in without considering the consequences
○ Passive tendencies– difficulty in self advocating or asking for help
○ Appearing to lack "common sense"

Object Recognition
○ Difficulty visually recognizing and locating objects
○ Trouble remembering landmarks, faces, places they've been before
○ Trouble with games such as Where's Waldo, Memory, puzzles

Quantification Sense

    Relying on fingers and calculators to count

    Difficulty calculating change

    Difficulty learning multiplication tables and number facts

    Difficulty with time management

Thank you for completing this checklist.

The Arrowsmith Program is designed for individuals who are of average to above average intelligence and have any number of the cognitive difficulties described in this checklist. If you/your child fit this profile, the Arrowsmith Program is suitable.

Please feel free to use this checklist to approach a school offering the Arrowsmith Program. Each school will have their own enrolment criteria and process which will include conversations between the family and the school and the sharing of information about your/your child's learning history. **Please note an Arrowsmith assessment is neither required nor available to determine suitability.** While the Arrowsmith Program cannot guarantee admissions into a school's Program, this completed checklist can be helpful in determining suitability.

For a list of participating schools go to: [Click here for a List of Participating Schools](#)

If there are currently no schools in your area and you would like information on how to advocate for the program please go to: [Click here for Advocacy Brochure](#)

We hope you found this process useful in identifying the Program's suitability for you/your child, and considering the difficulties that can be fundamentally strengthened by participation in the Arrowsmith Program. Regrettably we are unable to review your completed checklist; please do not return to Arrowsmith Program.

For further information on the Arrowsmith Program please visit www.arrowsmithschool.org

Kind Regards,

Arrowsmith Program