

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT ADMISSIONS SCREENING

ABC Tutoring and Educational Services

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What is the purpose of the admissions screening?

Administrators and teachers have asked ABC Tutoring and Educational Services to screen all students entering kindergarten through eighth grade in Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools to determine whether or not students will be able to achieve the grade level where success will be assured.

Exactly what is a screening battery?

ABC Tutoring will assess skills related to success in school. Children applying for kindergarten will be assessed in the areas of language, early math and reading development, and developmental readiness. Students applying for first and second grade will be assessed in the areas of written expression, reading and math. Those applying for grades three through eight will be assessed in reading, language, written expression, and math. Kindergarteners, first, and second graders will be screened individually or in small groups. Third through eighth graders will be screened for the most part in a group session. ABC Tutoring prefers not to provide the names of screening devices or specific descriptions of them until after the screening batteries have been given.

My child just took an achievement test at school. Can you use that for the admissions screening?

Perhaps! Please provide the MACS Admission Office with your student's standardized test information. Previous testing information will be reviewed by Admissions. If your student's file gives MACS the necessary information for a placement decision the screening at ABC Tutoring may be waived. The MACS Admission Office will notify you if testing is not necessary.

How can I prepare my child for the admissions screening?

It is best not to mention the word "test" especially if your child is young. Children will respond positively when you tell them they will meet a teacher and will be able to show her "everything they know." Young children should understand that they will stay at ABC Tutoring for about as long as it takes them to eat supper and that afterward, they will return to the school where they are going now.

Do I need to bring anything with me for the admissions battery?

After applying to MACS, ABC will contact you directly, within 3-4 weeks, to schedule a screening appointment. ABC provides all materials needed for the screening. You do not need to bring anything with you.

Where are you located?

We are located in southeast Charlotte behind B.J.'s off East Independence Blvd. Map is attached

Do you make accommodations for a child with special needs, learning disabilities, etc.?

Our screening procedures will remain standardized as much as possible with notes concerning issues made on report forms. Individual cases must be addressed on the day of the screening with the evaluator. Physical disabilities will always be accommodated.

Will there be a break for my child during the screening?

Your child may take a bathroom break at any time. Students applying for grades three through eight do have a stretch break midway as their screening takes approximately 2 ½ hours.

Do I stay or go during the screening?

Parents may wait in our waiting area or feel free to run errands as long as you return within the designated time. Screening for a kindergartener, first or second grader takes approximately 45 minutes; screening for third through eighth grades takes approximately 2 ½ hours.

When do I receive the results of my child's screening?

MACS has scheduled specific dates for decision releases. They will send you a copy of your child's screening results and descriptions of screening devices with their letter regarding your child's admission status. We are often asked: "How did my child do?" immediately following the screening. We are unable to answer at that time because scoring has yet to be complete.

