

# Utilising the SPaRCS Test for Access Arrangements

## BACKGROUND

SPaRCS Test is a revolutionary tool designed to evaluate two separate speeds of working areas vital for Access Arrangements. This case study explores its efficacy when administered to a cohort of Year 9 students.

## OBJECTIVE

Our primary goal was to unearth a method that was both cost-effective and efficient for testing large student groups for exam access arrangements.

## FEATURES

Unlike several tests that majorly focus on a single area, be it reading speed or processing speed, SPaRCS provides a more holistic view by testing both. This dual assessment facilitates an assessor in obtaining two crucial scores from the same test battery, streamlining the evaluation process.

## BENEFITS

1. Dual Speed Working Assessment: This characteristic sets SPaRCS apart and ranks high in its appeal.
2. Group Administration: A pivotal feature that ensures time efficiency.
3. Value for Money: Priced on par with alternatives like DASH or the old SDMT, its dual assessment gives it an edge.
4. Time-saving: Group testing aids in rapid data collection, and its straightforward marking system eliminates the dilemma of subjective answers.

## APPLICATIONS OF THE RESULTS

Beyond the primary purpose of obtaining the necessary scores for exam access arrangements, these results also serve as an invaluable resource for teachers. They present insights into students' spelling, processing, and reading speed, enabling tailored session planning.

## SUMMARY

**Sarah Guest - UK**

**An entire cohort of Year 9 students, approximately 130, were tested during the summer term.**

the SPaRCS test proved incredibly efficient in both administration and scoring. Its results have wide-reaching implications, from access arrangements to lesson planning. What stood out was the efficiency of the validity indicators. They were ingeniously crafted and highly effective. A personal favourite was the processing speed test, more so with the phasing out of SDMT. The ease of scoring this test was an added advantage.



*"The SPaRCS Test, with its unique dual assessment capability, offers an efficient and effective tool for group testing. Its results are versatile and cater to a broader educational ecosystem, from access arrangements to aiding classroom strategies. While there's always room for improvement, it's evident that SPaRCS holds significant promise in the realm of educational testing."*