



# About us



## SPEECH THERAPY



We Specialise in

BEHAVIOUR  
THERAPY

CHILD &  
ADOLESCENT  
ASSESSMENTS

COUNSELLING

OCCUPATIONAL  
THERAPY

SPEECH THERAPY

GROUP PROGRAMS



Language skills are important for a child's social and emotional development. It is the foundation of thought and communication. Children need to develop a good grasp of language to learn to read and comprehend and then to write and spell. Speech is the mechanics of making words and sentences be heard and understood. It involves good planning and flexible movements of the lips, tongue, palate and vocal chords. These articulators need to work together to produce speech and when the system fails in some way, it can cause frustration and concern.

Our Speech Pathologists have extensive experience in childhood language disorders, speech sound disorders, Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) as well as reading and spelling. Our competent team collaborates to assist children who are neurodiverse (ASD, ADHD etc.) in an affirming manner.

### HOW CAN WE ASSIST?

We work with children from 12 months to 18 years of age who have difficulties with:

- **Speech Sounds** Your child may have difficulties pronouncing or saying some sounds correctly e.g. /th/, /s/ and /r/, or it can be very difficult to understand for their age (Phonological processes and Childhood Apraxia of Speech).
- **Phonemic Awareness and Literacy** Your child may have poor sound awareness which can result in poor reading ability and spelling difficulties. Therapy focuses on segmenting, blending and phonemic manipulation abilities as well as good synthetic phonics intervention. Reading comprehension skills and being able to answer questions is important.
- **Language** Your child may have a poor grasp of vocabulary and sentence structure and they find it hard to participate in conversations or in a classroom. Language develops throughout a person's life and is integral to thinking and function.
- **Fluency** Your child may experience stuttering, an involuntary repetition of sound, words, phrases or prolongations.
- **Written language** Therapy can help improve your child's narratives/story writing, procedural and persuasive text writing, while also addressing spelling and sentence structure.
- **Improve muscle functioning** Your child may need to improve oral muscle functioning to enhance lip function, or treat a tongue thrust and improve feeding and swallowing problems.

## HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILD NEEDS HELP?

No two children are alike, however there are several key signs that indicate speech therapy may be of benefit to your child. These include:

- Not meeting developmental milestones i.e. slow to start talking, not using a lot of words for their age
- Difficulties speaking clearly or hard to understand
- Frustrated when they can't get their message across
- Not following directions and instructions
- Struggling with reading, spelling or comprehension
- Finding it hard to engage with others and play with children
- Difficulties with reading or writing (making up words, skipping words, guessing, poorly formed sentences)
- Experiencing a disability which is impacting speech and communication

## WHAT TO EXPECT?

### *Initial Consultation*

If required, a comprehensive assessment is carried out, including discussions and observations while your child completes aged appropriate tasks.

Once your child's profile of strengths and difficulties is identified, we will collaborate with you to identify the goals for therapy, which forms the basis of our intervention plan. During this process, we will ask you to identify the skills and/or behaviours that are the priority to work on, both in the short and long term.

### *Therapy Sessions*

Sessions will focus on working through identified goals and review progress and any homework tasks that have been set in previous sessions. Play based tasks are incorporated into the session that aims to engage your child based on their interests. At the end of the session, time is set aside to provide feedback and discuss tasks to practice with your child between sessions.



**CONTACT US TODAY**

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