

Speech–Language Therapy Services in Education

LANGUAGE FOR LEARNING LANGUAGE FOR LIFE

Further information

All Education Queensland speech–language therapy services are required to align with the guidelines provided in the service documents *Speech–Language Therapy Services in State Schools and Priorities in Speech–Language Therapy Services in State Schools*. These service documents are available from the Speech–Language Pathologists' Professional Learning Community at: www.learningplace.com.au/deliver/content.asp?pid=33807

Contact us

For local speech–language therapy services contact:

- School Principal
- Head of Special Education Services
- Speech–Language Pathologist-in-Charge in District or Regional Offices

Speech–Language Pathologists Professional Learning Community: www.learningplace.com.au/sc/inclusiveeducation/slp

Our approach

Education Queensland provides speech–language therapy services for students with special needs in communication enrolled in state schools or registered for Early Childhood Intervention Programs and Services.

The focus of these services is to enhance students' educational programs and outcomes.



LANGUAGE FOR LEARNING LANGUAGE FOR LIFE

COMMUNICATION IS
ESSENTIAL FOR
LEARNING, LITERACY
AND NUMERACY
DEVELOPMENT,
INTERACTING WITH
OTHERS, PARTICIPATION
IN ALL CLASS AND
SCHOOL ACTIVITIES,
AND POSITIVE
SELFEESTEEM.



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Speech–Language Therapy

Speech–language pathologists in schools:

- Work as members of the education team (which can include the student, parents/carers, teachers, teacher aides and other specialist support personnel) to determine educational needs of students with special needs in communication and/or eating and drinking difficulties
- Assist in developing and delivering programs that enhance or support students' communication skills necessary for access and participation in the curriculum
- Assist the education team to adjust communication demands of the curriculum to ensure student participation and achievement of educational goals
- Provide professional development activities for teachers, teacher aides and other support staff
- Consult with and provide resources to school staff, parents and the school community
- Liaise with other agencies.

To assist students in achieving their educational outcomes, speech–language pathologists use specialised knowledge of:

- Speech
- Language
- Social interaction skills
- Communication strategies
- Voice
- Fluency
- Eating, drinking and swallowing.

Services

Speech–language pathologists contribute to students' educational programs by:

- Planning with teachers to provide classroom activities to enhance spoken language competencies
- Advising on the spoken language prerequisites for literacy and numeracy development and strategies to assist students to develop these
- Advising parents about speech and language development and how they can assist their children to develop spoken language competence
- Assessing students' communication development and skills
- Identifying students with speech–language impairment according to departmental criteria
- Providing intervention programs to support students with special needs in communication
- Determining the communication requirements of classroom activities, resources and assessments and advising on modifications to support specific student needs
- Working collaboratively with the education team to support students' positive behaviour
- Advising on the use of technology to support communication
- Providing support for students who require augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) systems and strategies
- Providing support and strategies for students with oromotor difficulties including students with eating and drinking difficulties and swallowing disabilities.