

Conditions affecting Speech, Language and Communication

Developmental

- Learning (Intellectual) Disability
- Developmental Delay
- Chromosomal Disorders
eg Down Syndrome
- Dyspraxia
- Autism
- Cerebral Palsy

Health and wellbeing

- Deafness/hearing impairment
- Ageing
- Oral cancer
- Stuttering/fluency

Neurological

- Stroke (CVA)
- Parkinson's
- Multiple Sclerosis (MS)
- Dementia
- Motor Neurone Disease
- Huntington's
- Muscular Dystrophy
- Brain/head injuries

Therapy Professionals Speech Language Therapists

Our therapists work with the elderly, adults, and children who have a disability, injury or illness. Their special interests are learning (intellectual) and/or physical disabilities.

We can work closely with:

- families/whanau
- caregivers
- our team of Physio, Music and Occupational Therapists, and Dietitians
- other professionals
- workplaces, employers and schools

We support organisations by providing:

- therapists on contract
- documentation systems
- staff training eg on communication and swallowing
- assistance to develop alternative communication policies and procedures

*Allied Health Sector Standards (NZS8175)
certification in progress*

We can help.

Contact us now

03 377 5280

We come to you.



**Physio, Speech Language, Music,
Occupational Therapists
and Dietitians**

**Having trouble understanding
and being understood?
(Communication)**

Speech Language Therapy

**You don't have to struggle alone.
We can help.
We come to you.**

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Therapy wherever you live, work, play or learn

Speech Language Therapists

- help you manage or improve speech, language, communication and swallowing (dysphagia) problems.
- understand the relationship between ageing, disability, injury or illness and your communication or eating and drinking (see 'Having trouble eating and drinking' brochure).

Many of the same muscles, nerves and body parts are used for speech, and for eating and drinking, which is why Speech Language Therapists specialise in both.

Our Speech Language Therapists are:

- members of the New Zealand Speech Therapy Association
- educated, knowledgeable and have the skills to help you
- up to date with the latest trends and research
- Ministry of Education specialists
- skilled in working with children, adults and older people.

They follow a Code of Ethics.

For more information on Speech Language Therapy
<http://www.speechtherapy.org.nz>

Having problems with *understanding and being understood*

Non- Verbal communication:

- facial expression
- gesture/sign language
- body language
- symbols (writing, drawing, pictures)
- using technology

Verbal communication:

Speech

- making sounds like 'k' and 's' clearly
- talking without hesitation or repetition
- talking with a strong voice
- making the voice lively and interesting
- hoarse or husky voice

Language

- making sense of what people say
- knowing and choosing the right words to explain your meaning
- joining words together in sentences, stories and conversations

Social Rules:

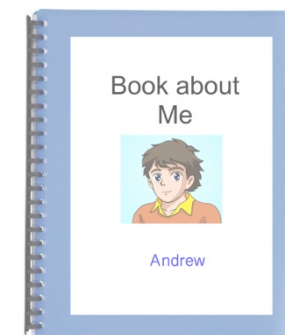
- considering other people's points of view
- recognising non verbal clues
- taking turns, eye contact, personal space
- staying on topic
- adapting communication for different situations or audiences

(See our brochure 'Is your child struggling at school and home?')

We can help

Our Speech Language Therapists give practical solutions to improve your communication, such as:

- ways to use and/or enhance your current communication skills
- exercises to help all areas of speech, language and voice
- use of gestures, signs, symbols, and/or technology



With you, and those supporting you, they will:

- tailor a plan for you and help you put it into action
- review plan if required
- recommend equipment and its funding



Therapy wherever your live, work, play or learn