

## Speech Pathology at Kids Plus

A Speech Pathologist at Kids Plus can help with the assessment, treatment and management of communication and swallowing.

### Including the areas of:

- speech - the coordination of the muscles and movements necessary to produce speech sounds;
- using language - the ability to find the right words and/or organise those words in a meaningful way to communicate;
- listening to and understanding language - understanding the words we hear or see;
- alternative forms of communication - communication books, visuals, switches, electronic devices and eyegaze technology;
- swallowing food and drink safely - chewing, manipulating food with the tongue, coordinating mouth and throat structures and muscles, breathing appropriately;
- fluency – stuttering;
- literacy - the skills needed to spell, read and write, and understand these;
- social skills - the ability to use our body, face and words to express ourselves, listen to others, to learn and make friends;
- voice - the quality of sound that comes out when we vocalise.

Speech Pathologists can assess difficulties formally (eg. completing a test) or informally (eg. observation of skills). Speech Pathologists can also refer on for further assessments.

Therapy at Kids Plus can include individual or group sessions, prescribing equipment such as communication books or electronic speech devices, daycare/kinder/classroom activities, or contact with other professionals (e.g. teachers, carers, psychologists, pediatricians, dieticians, ENT surgeons).

All assessment and treatment at Kids Plus takes into account all areas of your child's development and how they impact on communication and swallowing, including posture, tone, sensory, cognition, cardio-vascular & respiratory, vision, hearing, fine motor and gastrointestinal.