Welcome children and adolescents.

Conduct a thorough assessment to tailor the most appropriate therapy.

Use the latest resources, technology and evidence based practices.

Update skills regularly through conferences and workshops.

Regularly present to teachers, parents and colleagues about communication problems and how to help.

Strive to be supportive, respectful and understanding when helping children fulfil their potential.

Acknowledge that parents have expert knowledge on their child.

Help parents understand their child’s communication disorder, why it is happening, how it can be helped and the value of speech therapy in this process.

Comprise a team of dedicated, experienced and caring professionals.

Work collaboratively with teachers.

Contact our clinic to arrange your child’s school based service

Speech Pathology Matters

Suite 4
43 Tallebudgera Creek Rd
West Burleigh Q 4219

Ph: 07 55207860
Fax: 07 55207902
Your child may need to see a Speech Pathologist if ……….

- Their speech is unclear.
- They are having trouble expressing themselves using grammatically correct sentences.
- They are stuttering.
- They find it difficult to understand questions, concepts and directions.
- They are experiencing difficulty socialising with other children.
- They are experiencing reading, writing or spelling difficulties.
- They struggle to sound out words to read and spell.
- They have poor comprehension of what they read.
- They experience difficulty telling or writing stories.
- They have difficulties eating, drinking or swallowing.
- They have a disability such as an autism spectrum disorder, ADHD, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy or a global developmental delay.

Speech Pathologists can help in many different areas of communication

First Words
Speech Pathologists help children who are late to talk. Toddlers who lack communication skills often experience frustration and behavioural difficulties. Therapy frequently involves giving parents practical ideas to follow through with at home.

Speech Sounds
Speech Pathologists help children move their mouth in the correct way to pronounce sounds clearly. Communicating with clarity allows a child to confidently socialise with others and establish foundations for literacy.

Pragmatics/Social Skills
Children with communication difficulties often struggle to learn how to socially interact and play appropriately. They may struggle with non-verbal skills like eye contact, body language and facial expressions or find it difficult to master the “art of conversation”.

Expressive Language
Speech Pathologists help children who struggle to express themselves in correctly formed sentences. Speech Therapy can assist children to expand their vocabulary and support their foundation oral language skills for school.

Understanding
When children find it hard to understand questions and instructions they may appear withdrawn, noncompliant, disruptive or confused. These children may have a genuine language comprehension problem which could be assisted with Speech Therapy.

Literacy (Reading & Spelling)
Children who struggle with literacy learning may have underlying speech and language difficulties. Poor phonological awareness skills (blending and sounding out words) often contributes to these difficulties. Speech Pathologists have specialist skills to assist children who have language based learning difficulties.
Our Service @ St Ambrose

When
Thursdays 9.00—3.15

Who
Kelsie Webb (Speech Pathologist)
Christa Bewley (Speech Pathologist)

What
A wide range of services are available at our West Burleigh clinic such as assessments, diagnosis, individual therapy sessions, social skills groups, teacher workshops, parent training, a feeding clinic and psychology services. See our website for more details.

The following services will be available at St Ambrose Primary School.

- Screening assessments
- Diagnostic assessments
- Complex Diagnostic assessments
- Individual Therapy Sessions
- Team meetings with parents & teachers

How to arrange
- Talk to your child’s teacher and/or the additional needs teacher about your concerns.
- Talk to our speech pathologists when they are on-site about your concerns.
- Contact our clinic by phone or email to arrange your child’s assessment appointment or ongoing therapy sessions.
- Fill out our background information form for our speech pathologists before your first appointment.
- All initial appointments must be paid for in advance or on the day. Ensure you understand how and when to make payments for your child’s speech therapy services.
- All payments are made directly to our clinic or to the speech pathologist on the day. No payments will be processed by the school.
- Receipts will be posted or emailed to parents after the session.

How to pay
If attending the session:
- Parent pay by cash/cheque to the speech pathologist.
If not attending the session:
- Pay on invoice for the whole term in advance by cheque, credit card or direct deposit and receive a 5% discount OR
- Post a cheque to our clinic prior to each session.
- Call our clinic for credit card payments on or before the day of each session
- Make a direct deposit payment via internet banking before the day of each session and don’t forget to email us your bank receipt.

Prompt payment requirement
- Therapy sessions are allocated in priority of payments received.
- Failure to make payments by the due date or prior to the child’s session may mean that your child may not be seen for therapy on the day and they will go on a waitlist until a vacancy is available and payment is made.
- Demand for speech pathology appointments at school are high so prompt payments are recommended to secure your child’s appointment.
How much to pay
(2015 fees)

Screening assessments (K and Yr 1 only) - $212.50/45 min

Diagnostic assessments - $425/1.5 hour

Complex Diagnostic assessments - $600/ for two 1-1.5hour testing sessions

Individual Therapy Sessions - $103

Team meetings - $140/hour

Rebates and Payment assistance
- Medicare rebates are available under the CDM, Autism and Better Start schemes. Forward your referral form from your doctor to our clinic and we can issue the relevant receipts for a rebate.
- Private Health Fund Rebates available for families with relevant extras cover. Let us know and we can forward a receipt to you for claiming with your health fund.
- FaHCSIA Helping Children with Autism and Better Start Initiatives. We are a registered provider with these initiatives and we are happy have your services claimed through these initiatives although higher scheduled fees usually apply when claiming for services under these initiatives.

See our website for more details.

FAQ

What if my child is sick and/or cannot attend on the day?
Parents will need to ring our clinic ideally the day before or before 9.00 on the day of the scheduled session if they expect that their child is unable to attend due to illness or a school activity (e.g. excursion or sport carnival). A failure to do so may mean that parents are charged a Fail To Attend fee.

How do I keep in touch with the speech pathologist?
The speech pathologist may write notes in your child’s speech pathology scrapbook which should contain activities for homework and activities completed in the session. Some activities may be completed by a teacher aide at the school in between sessions if this service is available at your school. Some activities may be for you to do at home with your child. If your child is issued with a scrapbook please ensure it is sent with the child each time a session is to occur.

You may also wish to attend some or all of the speech pathologist’s sessions at school so that you can see personally what strategies to use with your child at home.

The speech pathologist will also endeavour to communicate with you by phone or email at the end of the term to update you on your child’s progress and give recommendations regarding your child’s future speech therapy needs.

If you have any queries or concerns about your child’s speech pathology service at the school please do not hesitate to contact us.

How fast will my child improve?
All children progress at different rates dependent upon many factors: the severity of the problem; the age of the child; the temperament of the child; how many areas of development are affected; how early treatment commenced; the frequency of intervention; and the commitment of the child’s teachers and parents in supporting the child’s communication on a daily basis. You can help your child improve by practicing activities and strategies suggested by the speech pathologist.