





Is Online Speech Therapy Suitable for My Child?

Information Pack for Parents



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Hi there!

At Care Speech Pathology, we are proud to have helped over 1,500 Australian families navigate the journey of speech therapy.

As parents ourselves, we understand the unique concerns and anxiety that come with your child's communication development. Rest assured, you are in the right place.

Our dedicated team spends every day working closely with families to meaningfully improve communication skills.

We have curated this e-book to address the numerous questions you may have about online speech therapy and to provide you with the resources you need to make an informed decision.

We hope you find this information helpful and reassuring. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Take Care,

Jack and Tabitha

Why choose Care Speech Pathology

Our team have spent thousands of hours delivering assessment and intervention via video call. You'll love our online therapy, and here's why:



We are fully qualified Speech Pathologists registered with Speech Pathology Australia.



We use the same evidence-based diagnostic assessment tools you would see in an in-person clinic.



We use gold-standard therapy resources, specially adapted for interactive online delivery.



We work with families in the comfort of their own home, reducing stress and boosting consistency.



Research shows that online speech pathology is just as effective as in-person therapy!

Frequently Asked Questions

CARE

My child is only young – can you help?

Absolutely! Our Certified Practising Speech Pathologists work with children of all ages, but especially little ones. In fact, young children are one of the age groups best suited to online therapy. This is because research shows that parent coaching and training is the #1 most effective way to improve communication skills in young children, so as long as you (or another parent or guardian) are able to attend the therapy sessions alongside your child, they are a perfect candidate for online therapy!



Fun Fact: More than 75% of the kiddos we work with are aged under 5.

My child is very active – can you help?

Absolutely! Therapy shouldn't feel like sitting in a classroom, so we make sure it doesn't. Our Certified Practising Speech Pathologists use a range of proven techniques such as interactive games, visual timers, picture schedules, funny videos, virtual backgrounds, physical activities and so much more to keep every session fun & engaging. We want to keep our young clients coming back for more!



Fun Fact: We incorporate "movement breaks" to help keep active kids on track!

My child needs to work on social skills – can you help?

Absolutely! In fact, social skills is one of the communication areas we support clients with the most. Our Certified Practising Speech Pathologists use high-tech audio and visual systems to carefully model facial expressions, gestures and tone of voice during every therapy session. We also use scripting, roleplay and video feedback to provide first-class supports for improving social communication.



Fun Fact: Providing social skills support is now our second most popular request among school-aged clients.

How it works



Getting started

- Select your preferred day/time for your Initial Consultation and make an online booking.
- We'll send you a confirmation email with some information and a link to complete your online registration form.
- A few days before the appointment, your Speech Pathologist will email you your secure, personal Zoom link for when it is time to join the session.

BOOK INITIAL CONSULTATION

Initial consultation

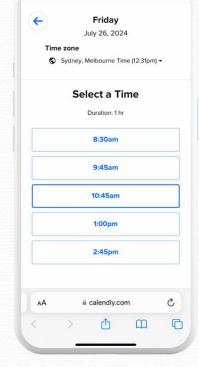
() 60 min **(**\$) \$242.49

HOW TO JOIN: Click the Zoom link in the email from your Speech Pathologist. If you haven't used Zoom before, click on the link and create a free account before your session.



WHAT HAPPENS? You meet your Speech Pathologist, of course! Your child is welcome to join you for this appointment, but they don't have to. This is an opportunity for you to tell the therapist all about your observations, concerns & goals. Your therapist will gather detailed information about your child's developmental history, and make recommendations for assessment and therapy. They will also help you to book in any future appointments & answer any questions you might have about the Speech Pathology process.

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Ongoing Therapy

(L) 45 min (\$) \$193.99

HOW TO JOIN? Use the same Zoom link that you used for the "Initial Consultation". We made this confidential Zoom meeting room especially for you, so you can keep it forever!

WHAT HAPPENS? Pick up where your Initial Consultation left off. Continue formal assessment and/or make a start on your therapy program. This will depend on the tailored plan you have discussed with your Speech Pathologist.



Did you know? With an NDIS plan, fees are 100% covered. Rebates are also available through private health insurance/Medicare.

What our clients say



****** "Not only has [Care Therapist] successfully engaged my son in all activities each session, but it was made fun and he now looks forward to his sessions"



********* "I received some great advice for my toddler. I'm very impressed with the strategies suggested and have seen improvements already. Highly recommended. Thank you so much."



****** "Your service and assistance provided has been absolutely stunning. We can not thank you enough for the time that you spend with [Care Client] in helping him to grow."

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★★★★★ "I honestly didn't think Zoom sessions would help my son to speak but they have worked wonders. [Care Therapist] has been patient, kind and persistent..."



What to expect

We are proud to support clients **with all areas of communication** and it's not possible to explain every single technique we use! But, we put our heads together and compiled some of the most common presentations we see to give you an idea of what you might expect from your online therapy journey.

Speech/Language Delay	$\mathbf{>}$
Reading & Writing	>
Autism Spectrum Disorder	>
Stuttering	>
Early Intervention (Ages 0-5)	>
School Readiness	>
Social Skills	>
Articulation	>

Speech/Language Delay



Assessment

We'll complete an observational assessment (watching how the child naturally plays & interacts) and/or parent survey (asking you about the child's vocabulary & other ways they communicate) and/or direct assessment (guiding the child through a fun, simple language test) to find out where the child's language skills are sitting currently.



Therapy

We'll use a combination of direct intervention (completing play-based activities directly with the child) and parent coaching (explaining evidence-based strategies you can use at home) to support the child's language development. We'll spend lots of time talking about home practice ideas and ensuring that the child's language skills are progressing well each week.

Reading & Writing



Assessment

We'll start by assessing the underlying sound awareness skills that all people need to read & write successfully. From there, we'll assess all other areas of literacy depending on the client's age & skill level. This may include simple skills such as knowing which letters make which sounds, and more complex skills such as reading comprehension & overall written expression.



Therapy

We'll always use a structured, evidence-based program to teach reading & writing in a logical, sequential and effective way. We'll use interactive games & activities (such as playing with on-screen Scrabble tiles or 'popping the balloon' with the correct spelling) to teach & reinforce new skills. We'll work on all areas of literacy simultaneously and we'll always provide home practice.

Autism Spectrum Disorder

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Assessment

This will entirely depend on you, your family & your goals! If there is more than one area you would like to work on, assessment will likely be a collaborative process that spans over a number of sessions. We always adopt a holistic, neurodiversity-affirming approach and take the time to explore all areas of communication & social interaction that are important to you.



Therapy

We support people with autism spectrum disorder in a wide variety of ways. If you have lots of communication goals, we can usually tailor our therapy plan to target two or three areas at a time. Your Speech Pathologist will let you know if they think one area is a priority to start with. The therapy plan will always start with dedicated time to get to know you & build a great relationship.

Stuttering



Assessment

We'll start by asking background questions about the stuttering (such as when it started and how it feels). Then, we'll observe the stuttering in structured tasks (such as answering simple questions), observe the stuttering in unstructured tasks (such as describing a picture or having a conversation) and/or conduct a stuttering impact survey (to learn how the stuttering is impacting daily life).



Therapy

We'll use the client's age and the severity of their stuttering to select the best evidence-based intervention approach. Therapy will always follow a series of structured steps according to a set program, and will aim to steadily increase the 'fluency' of speech until stuttering is almost or completely undetectable. We'll always assign home practice tasks and monitor progress as we go.

Early Intervention (Ages 0-5)



Assessment

We'll learn everything we can about the child's current stage of development (in other words, the communication skills they have already and the ones they're still learning or haven't learnt yet). To do this, we'll conduct an observational assessment (watch how the child currently plays & interacts at home) and complete parent interviews & checklists to gather all the information.



Therapy

Early intervention sets children up for success! It allows us to support a child while they are still young and while the developmental gap between them and their peers is still small. We'll start by targeting early-developing communication skills and the ones that are the most important for everyday life. We'll always show families what they can do at home to support communication development every day.

School Readiness



Assessment

We'll complete parent/guardian checklists in all the areas the child will need for school (such as listening, paying attention, playing well with others, showing an interest in books, recognising letters and numbers, and learning to draw and write). We may also conduct direct assessment, such as completing a test to formally evaluate the child's speech and language skills.



Therapy

At this age, our priority is to make learning fun! We'll target any learning gaps we might have identified through tailored therapy activities & interactive games. We'll use the child's specific interests to get them excited about learning, and we'll ensure that the child is always experiencing learning success. We'll set home practice tasks to get the child up to speed and thriving before they start school.

Social Skills



Assessment

We'll complete a client/parent survey (asking about current abilities for up to 50 different social skills) and/or observational assessment (watching the client as they have a conversation or other interaction) and/or direct assessment (for example, asking the client to watch a video of a social scenario and explain what they would do/say next).



Therapy

We'll use a combination of collaborative goal-setting (establishing what the client would personally like to work on), explicit teaching (explaining different social skills, why they're important & how to use them), video modelling (contrasting videos of good vs not-so-good social interactions) and roleplay/scripted practice to increase the client's social confidence and social tool kit.

Articulation



Assessment

We'll ask the child to label some pictures and answer some simple questions. We'll quickly be able to tell if the child's speech errors are due to a speech sound delay (e.g., they haven't yet learnt the difference between two similar sounds (such as 'k' and 'g')) or an articulation error (e.g., they don't yet know where they need to put their tongue (such as for 's' or 'th')).



Therapy

Depending on the assessment findings, we'll make a phonological therapy plan (for speech sound delay) or an articulation therapy plan (for articulation errors) or a combination of both. We'll teach the child all about the 'new' sound they can make and use interactive games & activities to practise the 'new' sound multiple times every session. We'll always set homework for daily practice.



Ready to take the next step?

Book your initial consultation

We're excited to help you start your journey to better communication. Click the link below to book your first consultation.

BOOK INITIAL CONSULTATION

\$242.49 for a 60-minute session

Send an enquiry

Have questions? Enquire through our online form. We'll get back to you as soon as possible.

SEND A MESSAGE

Call Us

Prefer to speak with someone directly? Give us a call. Our friendly team is ready to help.



