

Talkabout Toddler

Language facilitation strategies are demonstrated during the session and we show caregivers how to apply these at home.

Eligibility criteria:

- Between 18 months and 2.5 years of age.
- At risk of speech or language delay or disorder.
- Able to cope with group structure and demands.

Talkabout 3

The focus of the group is on play and social skills, and expressive and receptive language skills. Language facilitation strategies are demonstrated during the session. The program also addresses fine and gross motor development, and sensory integration.

Eligibility criteria:

- Turning 3 before 30 June of the year enrolled in the program.
- Have a risk of developing a speech and language delay or disorder.
- Able to cope with group structure and demands.

Talkabout 4

The program focuses on comprehension and expressive language skills, including narrative, grammar and semantic organisation skills. Play and social skills form an integral part of the curriculum, and fine motor skills, gross motor skills and sensory integration are also addressed. Students attend one day a week and also attend their mainstream kindergarten.

Eligibility criteria:

- Eligible for enrolment in kindy.
- Have a primary speech or language delay or disorder.

Talkabout 5

The program focuses on comprehension and expressive language skills, including narrative, grammar and semantic organisation skills. There is a strong focus on the development of pre-literacy and social skills. Fine motor skills, gross motor skills and sensory integration are also an integral part of the program. Students attend two full days per week, and their mainstream pre-primary for the other three days of the week.

Eligibility criteria:

- Eligible for enrolment in pre-primary.
- Have a primary speech or language delay or disorder.

How can I enrol my child in Talkabout?

Not all children will be suited to the Talkabout learning environment. An intake interview with a member of the Talkabout team is undertaken prior to enrolment to determine eligibility and appropriateness for the program.

Contact

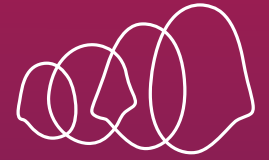
For more information, please contact:

Family Liaison Officer or Principal

(08) 9387 9888

speech@tsh.org.au

All information is correct at time of print.



Telethon Speech & Hearing

Is your child having speech or language difficulties?



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What is Talkabout?

Talkabout is a specialised language program for children who are experiencing a speech and language delay or disorder.

At Telethon Speech & Hearing, we believe all children should be able to express their needs and wants, feelings and thoughts. However, some children may need special encouragement and support to do this.

Talkabout has a team-based approach to helping your child achieve their speech and language goals.

The team includes:



* Your child and your family

* Talkabout Teacher and assistant

* Speech Pathologist

* Occupational Therapist

* Psychologist

Who does Talkabout help?

The Talkabout program is designed for children who have a speech and language delay or disorder.

These children often respond successfully to a play-based thematic program like Talkabout, which offers repeated opportunities to experience, explore and discover language and concepts vital for effective learning.

Talkabout is not designed to manage the special needs of children with specific disabilities, such as intellectual disability, permanent hearing impairment, cerebral palsy, autism, or other difficulties that are eligible for registration with Disability Services Commission.

Speech & Language Milestones

Every child acquires speech and language skills at their own rate. However, generally speaking there is a common timetable for when we can expect to see a child reach certain milestones.

If you have concerns regarding any of these areas, Talkabout may be able to assist.

18 months - More single words

Understanding and Listening

- Understands about 50 common words such as 'drink', 'car', 'shoe'.
- Understands simple instructions such as 'Come here', 'Stop', 'Kiss mummy'.

Talking

- Copies words and sounds other people say such as 'mamma' and 'woof'.
- Uses between 5-20 simple words although may not always be understood by unfamiliar adults.

2 years - Combining words

Understanding and Listening

- Understands about 500 words.
- Understands instructions such as 'Go and get your teddy'.
- Understands simple questions such as 'Where is your shoe?'

Talking

- Starts to put 2-3 word sentences together such as 'More juice' or 'Want more juice'.
- Can be understood by a familiar adult about half of the time.

These milestones are designed to be used as a guide only.

3 years - Language grows rapidly

Understanding and Listening

- Understands longer instructions involving 2 steps such as 'Find the cup and put it in the red bucket'.
- Understands concepts of size (big and little) and position (in, on, under).
- Understands 'yes' and 'no' questions and simple 'What?', 'Where?' and 'Who?' questions.

Talking

- Makes 4 - 5 word sentences such as 'I want more juice please'.
- Uses action words such as 'run' and 'fall'.
- Can be understood by an adult most of the time.

4 years - Asking many questions

Understanding and Listening

- Follows more complicated instructions involving 2 steps such as 'Get your bag and put your shoes on'.
- Understands more complex questions such as 'Who?', 'Why' and 'How?'

Talking

- Uses longer sentences and links sentences together to retell a story.
- Describes events that have already happened such as 'We went to the park'.
- Asks many questions using words like 'What?', 'Where' and 'Why?'.
- Speech is easy to understand.

5 years - Beginning to use language to read

Understanding and Listening

- Understands more complicated language such as 'First', 'Last', 'Maybe', 'In between'.
- Understands the concept of opposites such as 'The opposite of hot is cold'.
- Follows instructions involving 3 steps such as 'Get your book, put it in your bag and then put your bag by the door'.

Talking

- Beginning to tell news.
- Uses well-formed sentences and joins sentences using 'and', 'then', 'because' and 'but'.
- Speech is easy to understand.