



Telethon Speech & Hearing

Is your child having speech or language difficulties?



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.

Telethon Speech & Hearing is a Registered NDIS Provider.

Depending on your child's eligibility, parts or all of our programs may be covered under the NDIS. Contact us for a personal discussion.

Contact

For more information, please contact:
Family Liaison Officer, Deputy Principal or Principal
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All information is correct at time of print.



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PROGRAM NAME

PROGRAM FOCUS

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Talkabout 2 (Therapy Program)

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

Talkabout Playtime (Therapy Program)

Supporting children with pre-language skills including joint attention, imitation, eye contact and attention to tasks.

Talkabout 3 (Education + Therapy Program)

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.

Talkabout 4 (Registered School Program)

Developing comprehension and expressive language 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.

Talkabout 5 (Registered School Program)

Development of comprehension and expressive language skills with a strong focus on early 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.

Talkabout Language Support Groups

A support group for students in Years 1, 2 and 3 who are experiencing difficulty learning to read, spell and write, and who have delayed oral and written language. Students attend a two-hour support session per week and receive evidence-based support to enhance their literacy skills.

- Between 18 months and 2½ years of age
- At risk of speech or language delay or disorder
- Able to cope with group structure and demands

- Turning 3 before June 30 in the year of enrolment
- At-risk of developing a speech and language delay or disorder
- Not yet ready for a structured group program

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

- Eligible for enrolment in Kindergarten
- Have a primary speech/language delay or disorder

- Eligible for enrolment in Pre-Primary
- Have a primary speech/language delay or disorder

- Eligible for enrolment in Years 1, 2 or 3.
- Have a primary speech/language delay or disorder.

What is Talkabout?

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

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

This team includes:

- * Your child and your family
- * Talkabout Teacher and Education Assistant
- * Speech Pathologist
- * Occupational Therapist
- * Audiologist
- * Psychologist
- * Family Liaison Officer

Who does Talkabout help?

The Talkabout program is designed for children who have a speech and/or 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 loss, cerebral palsy or autism.

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*:

18 months - More single words

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

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



3 years - Language grows rapidly

- 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.
- 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

- 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?'
- 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?'.

5 years - Beginning to use language to read

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

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

**Milestones are designed to be used as a guide only.*