

Preschool Speech and Language Clinic

What is the Speech and Language Clinic?

The clinic is for preschool children with speech and/or language delays or disorders and their parent/carers.

Services are tailored to the individual needs of the child and involve a combination of assessment, individual and/or group therapy, parent/carer education, reviews and home programs.

Services are provided by student clinicians who work under the supervision of a qualified speech pathologist.

Assessment

An assessment session is usually the first service offered. This will involve the Speech Pathologist finding out about the parent/carer's concerns, the child's developmental history and other relevant areas. Standardised or informal testing will be conducted to assess the child's communication. Usually, assessments will take one to two sessions and you may receive a written report.

Following the assessment, decisions regarding access to further services are made with the parent/carer. This may involve:

- Facilitating a referral to an alternative service*
- Placing the client on a waiting list for a particular therapy program
- Offering some therapy sessions
- Placing the client on review

*Delayed language may be as a result of developmental disorders such as Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). This may result in a referral to an alternative agency (e.g., Early Childhood Early Intervention)

Therapy

If therapy is necessary, the results from the assessment will be used to decide on therapy goals. Parents/Carers play an active role with the Speech Pathologist in regularly assessing the child's progress and reviewing treatment goals. The experience of therapy should be fun and positive for the child. Therapy will require the parent/Carer to practice regularly with the child at home.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the Speech and Language Clinic:

- The child has not started school
- The child's primary impairment is speech and/or language
- The child does not have a developmental delay that is the result of intellectual, physical or sensory impairment (these children will be referred to the Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI) service)
- The child is not receiving speech pathology assistance at the same time from another state or federal government funded organisation such as the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services or the Australian Department of Human Services.
- The Parent/Carer agrees to the fee and attendance requirements
- Children who are receiving services from another speech pathologist will not usually be offered a service at LCC at the same time.



Fees

Service	General	Concession
Assessment	\$64	\$32
Therapy/Review	\$32	\$16

- Medicare or private health insurance do not give rebates for LCC fees.
- You will be charged the concession price if you bring a valid Health Care Card
- Talk to us if you have problems paying the fees
- For other programs different fees will apply — contact the clinic for further information.

Registration

To register for the Preschool Speech and Language please email completed application forms to the clinic at:

communication.clinic@latrobe.edu.au.

Forms can be download from our website, or you can request a copy by phoning the clinic Monday to Friday 9 am -3pm 03 9479 1921.

The following forms should be completed, signed and returned to the clinic.

- [Request for Service](#)
- [Client information form](#)
- [Client Consent](#)
- [Telehealth consent](#)

Clients will be admitted to clinic if they meet the eligibility guidelines and agree to the fee schedule and attendance requirements. No client will be refused services based on gender, race, religion or sexuality.

How Appointments are Arranged

Once your child's application is accepted, you will be contacted when an appointment becomes available. A waiting list may apply.

Please feel free to contact us to check how the waiting list is progressing.

Other Clinic Services

La Trobe Communication Clinic also offers the following speech pathology service:

- Voice - Gender affirming
- Voice General – Paediatric and Adult
- Paediatric fluency (stuttering)

For eligibility guidelines and other information on these services please contact clinic reception.

About Us

The mission of La Trobe Communication Clinic is to:

- Provide speech pathology services that are informed by client need and best practice
- Achieve excellence in clinical education
- Create research opportunities for Discipline of Speech Pathology students and staff.

Want to Know About Other Service Providers?

The Speech Pathology Australia website has a search option for public and private speech pathologists at the following address:

<http://www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au>