

Speech Pathology — Accent Modification Services

People who speak with an accent that is foreign to the country they are living in, may speak the language of that country very successfully but with an accent that the people around them cannot easily understand. This can, unfortunately, make it difficult for them to interact socially, build relationships and participate effectively in their workplace or community. In these cases, accent modification can be used to support the person to reduce their accent and speak the language of the country they are living in with pronunciation closer to that of native speakers. This also supports them to engage more successfully and easily out in the community and form relationships.

In accent modification therapy, the speech pathologist maps the patterns of the way the person is currently pronouncing words in the language of the country they are living in to systematically reduce the influence of the foreign accent and shape their pronunciation to be closer to that of the target language. This process can be highly successful, but the length of an intervention varies depending on the following factors:

- How easily the person is able to hear the difference in the details of the way they are pronouncing words compared to the way that native speakers pronounce the same words.
- How consistently the person is able to practise their speech and apply the techniques that have been taught in between sessions.
- The degree to which the person's accent is influencing their production of the target language.

Accent Modification Therapy at Fabic

Fabic offers accent modification programs for people attempting to reduce the influence of a foreign accent on their production of English. These interventions are offered as a series of 1:1 sessions.

In the initial session, the way in which the person's accent is influencing their production of English is mapped and this is used to give the person a rough estimate of the duration of the intervention. This will of course also be influenced by the person's ability to hear the difference between the way they produce English speech and the way in which native speakers do and also by how frequently and consistently they are able to practise and apply the techniques taught in the sessions.

Private health insurance can be used to support access to these sessions. Accent modification programs are available at the Fabic Brisbane and Gold Coast clinics, as well as in the client's home or other relevant setting via our mobile service to Beaudesert, Brisbane, Lismore, the Gold Coast, other locations and online via Zoom or Skype.

Meet Kathryn — Our Lead Speech Pathologist

Kathryn Maroney has been offering speech pathology services through Fabic since 2014 and has a wealth of experience to offer across the scope of speech pathology practice. Kathryn has worked in private practice, schools, community health and the not for profit sector.



Further information about Kathryn is available at www.fabic.com.au/about-us/kathryn-maroney

For more information about accent modification services offered through Fabic or to book an appointment, please contact Fabic by phone on (07) 5530 5099 or email at info@fabic.com.au