

## Speech Pathology — Auditory Processing Services

Auditory processing is the ability for a person to take in and filter through spoken speech from others so that they are able to then recognise and understand what has been said. A person who has strong auditory processing skills can listen to conversational speech, a lecture or instructions, actively recognise and process each word and concept being delivered and do this fast enough to keep up with the pace that the information is being delivered. For people who have particularly strong skills in this area, they are able to maintain this level of processing, whilst also completing other tasks, such as taking notes or discharging other duties.

People who do not have strong auditory processing skills can vary in the degree to which they are able to take in and process what is said to them. In the case of a mild difficulty, a person may only need to concentrate harder on what has been said when there is background noise. In more severe cases, as can happen with some intellectual disabilities, the person, at that time, may not be able to process even a single word that is said to them.

Weaknesses in the area of auditory processing can affect a person's ability to interact socially (especially in public places and with more than one person), to learn in a school, higher education or workplace setting, to interact for the purpose of completing tasks in a workplace and numerous other aspects of life.

### Developing Auditory Processing Skills

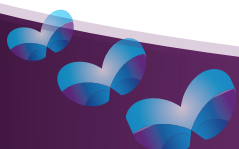
In most cases, a person can very successfully develop auditory processing skills. The degree to which they can develop these skills varies between people. At Fabic, an auditory processing intervention will typically involve progressively teaching the person to process more words and ideas within sentences, while also supporting them to deepen their ability to engage and focus on what is being said; then teaching them to apply these skills and process large chunks of information when delivered in conversational speech and with background noise and other distractions. The intervention is a program that builds the foundational skills and then supports the person to take those skills out and apply them successfully in life.

**In many cases, as a person's auditory processing skills develop, there is also a spontaneous increase in their ability to express themselves verbally as well.**

**OF NOTE** — *Auditory processing skills can be very successfully developed, but they require daily focussed practice sessions in order for the uptake of these skills to be successful. As such, before commencing an auditory processing intervention, we would typically encourage people to establish networks of support that will support the person to have someone practise with them on a daily basis and consistently throughout the duration of the intervention.*

### Auditory Processing Interventions at Fabic

Fabic offers programs and interventions to support people from three years of age right throughout adulthood. We support those who would like support to fine tune their ability to hear what has been said to them in public places or in the classroom, right through to people with disabilities who will begin by learning to process single words and build up from there.



## Speech Pathology — Auditory Processing Services

### Location & Funding Options

Sessions are offered at our Gold Coast and Brisbane clinics as well as in the client's setting via our mobile service to Beaudesert, Brisbane, Lismore, the Gold Coast and other locations where possible. In most cases, these skills can also be very successfully developed via online sessions.

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) funding, Medicare plans and private health insurance can be used to support access to these programs.

### Meet Kathryn — *Our Lead Speech Pathologist*

Kathryn Maroney is the lead speech pathologist at Fabic. Kathryn has extensive experience working in the field of disability and the general practice of speech pathology. Kathryn has worked in private practice, schools, community health and the not for profit sector. It has been her absolute pleasure to offer speech pathology services for Fabic since 2014.



Further information about Kathryn is available at  
[www.fabic.com.au/about-us/kathryn-maroney](http://www.fabic.com.au/about-us/kathryn-maroney)

For more information about the support Fabic can offer for auditory processing or to make an appointment, please contact Fabic by phone on **(07) 5530 5099** or email at [info@fabic.com.au](mailto:info@fabic.com.au)

