

Speech Pathology — Language Services

'Language' is the term used to describe a person's ability to communicate using spoken or written words. There are two aspects of language:

Receptive Language — the ability to understand what is said to you by others

Expressive Language — the ability to use words and sentences to express yourself

There is a broad spectrum of difficulties that people across the age range can experience with language. Some examples include:

- Young children who are late to begin speaking.
- People who are able to speak but have difficulty doing the following with the same ease and effectiveness as their age peers:
 - Following instructions and understanding conversational speech
 - Participating effectively in back and forth conversation
 - Sharing their thoughts and experiences in a well organised, systematic way
 - Answering questions
- People who may be able to write and spell but have difficulty working out what to say and how to formulate their thoughts into a written narrative.
- People of all ages who may not speak or who have minimal verbal and/or written communication.

Basically, anyone who is not able to easily and effortlessly understand what is said to them by others or communicate easily for all purposes in their turn, could potentially have an expressive and/or receptive language difficulty.

Language delays and disorders can be very successfully treated, provided that the person is open to working on the development of their skills and provided that they have someone who is able to work with them on practising and applying their skills in everyday life at least five days per week. It is never too late to develop receptive and/or expressive language skills. Once a person gets into their 50s and 60s, it can at times take longer and require more practice to develop these skills than it would have in their younger years. *However, if the person is willing and has sufficient support to work on the skills, the majority of people, no matter how severe their language difficulty, can improve these skills at any point in their life.*

Assessment & Treatment of Language Difficulties at Fabic

Fabic offers formal standardised assessments of receptive and expressive language as well as higher-level language (also known as problem-solving). We also offer informal assessments to help identify a person's capacity for receptive and expressive language compared to what they are currently accessing and applying in their everyday life.

We are able to offer interventions to support people from infants right up to older adults to develop their language skills. These sessions can be offered from our Gold Coast and Brisbane clinics, on site in the person's own setting via our mobile service to Brisbane, the Gold Coast, Beaudesert and Lismore and other locations on request or online via Zoom or Skype.

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

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.

For more information about Kathryn, please visit www.fabic.com.au/about-us/kathryn-maroney.



For more information about the language services that Fabic can offer or to book an appointment, please contact Fabic by phone on (07) 5530 5099 or email at info@fabic.com.au