



Speech, Language, Literacy & Learning Centre

Speech & Language News

Who are we?

Belinda Hill & Associates has been providing speech pathology management since 1995. Belinda has been the senior speech-language pathologist since the company's inception. She graduated with a degree in speech pathology in 1993 and was awarded her Masters in Applied Linguistics in 1996. Her dissertation was on the topic of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Belinda has been involved in numerous organisations and projects over the last 16 years. She was Vice President of the Australian Dyspraxia Support Group from 1998-2001. Over this same period, she

held a team-teaching position at Nepean College of TAFE. In this role she taught reading and writing to adults with acquired brain injury.

In 2004 and 2005 the business was recognised for Best Health Service in the local business awards and in 2005, Belinda was presented with the award of Business Person of the Year.

Belinda completed a school based project at Nyngan Public School during 2008. The project involved assessing students and setting up programs for the teachers and aides to follow during the year. The

final evaluation in December reflected teacher dedication with some positive results.

Belinda will continue school and preschool based services this year.

The practice is located in Derby St near Nepean Hospital. Family friendly facilities are available and helpful staff will ensure care and commitment throughout your association with us



Belinda Hill & Associates
 Speech-Language Pathologists

Issue 1
www.therabee.com
 February 2009

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION

We welcome any stories/ advertising or news regarding workshops/conferences or activities in the area of child speech/ language development and behaviour.



Who do we work with?

Preschoolers



School Age Children



Adults



Inside this issue:

Introduction	1
Speech development	2
ASD	2
Fundraising	3
Staff development	3
TheraBee Programs	4
Staff	4

Who do Speech Pathologists work with?

Speech Pathologists assess and provide treatment for a range of communication and swallowing impairments. We work with a wide age range (from babies to old age) in the population and with a variety of speech and language difficulties. Some examples are:-

- ☺ a child at 2 who is not talking
- ☺ a preschooler who has difficulty attending and following instructions
- ☺ a 3 year old with unclear speech
- ☺ a 4 year old who is having difficulties expressing themselves
- ☺ a school age child who is experiencing difficulties with spelling, reading and writing
- ☺ a child who is stuttering
- ☺ an adult who develops a communication impairment following stroke or head injury
- ☺ an infant who is having difficulties transitioning to solids
- ☺ A high school student

who has difficulty writing essays or comprehending text.

Speech Pathologists are university trained over 4 years and undergo thorough clinical practice and supervision.



Typical Speech Development

What would we expect from a

2 year old- 150-250 word vocabulary with 2 word combinations, understand basic instructions, and be able to use early sounds (p, b, t, d, m, h and w)



3 year old- 900-1000 word vocabulary with many short sentences, understand 2 part instructions, also able to use sounds (k, g, f, s), starting to reason, understands most questions and use most grammar correctly

4 year old- 1000+ word vocabulary with extended sentences, understands complex instructions, knows and labels colours and can use sounds (sh, ch, j) and consonant blends (eg stop) clearly in conversation.

5 year old- speech is readily under-

stood and 'adult like' in preparation for school.

If you are worried about a/your child's speech and language development, phone the clinic to make an appointment. Early intervention is highly effective and reduces frustration for family and teachers and later learning difficulties for the child.

"5 year old speech is adult like as they prepare for school entry"

Autism Spectrum Disorder

Our speech pathologists are suitably qualified to provide services for children with ASD (autism spectrum disorder).

Medicare rebates are available for 20 sessions for children with diagnosed ASD. Consult with your child's paediatrician regarding this.

In addition, children 0-7 years with a diagnosis of ASD are eligible for

\$6000 per year over 2 years towards intervention. Contact ASPECT (Autism Association) for details regarding the service.

PROGRAMS

All therapists regularly create play and interaction based pro-



grams with picture communication symbols and photos to ensure children with autism are provided with the most effective therapy materials.

In addition, parents are provided with communication strategies to continue with the program at home and in the community.

Samuel Morris Fundraising

The Samuel Morris Foundation was established in March 2007. It is a "charity supporting children disabled by near drowning or other hypoxic brain injury and targeting child drowning prevention". (website)

All money raised from fundraising activities carried out at the practice during 2009 will be donated to the Samuel Morris Foundation.



Website
www.samuelmorrisfoundation.org.au



Office Info

Our Speech Pathology Clinic is open from
Monday-Friday
8.30-5.30.

Parking available at rear

Disabled access

Baby change facilities

Children's play area

Weekly staff development



Hibba Nagrial presented on the topic of Fragile X at the first of our

weekly study groups. The talk was informative and created some interesting discussion. Each therapist will be presenting to the staff on a given topic throughout the year. During 2009, we will be covering common syndromes resulting in communication difficulties and developmental delays. Belinda Hill will provide training in the area of Angelman's Syndrome in March.

All staff participate in Speech Pathology Australia's continuing education PSR (professional self regulation) program. This ensures best practice principles are in place for clients at the clinic.

Some feedback....
"I found the session informative & invaluable."

BOARDMAKER

The picture communication symbols program known as Boardmaker is available for a free 30 day trial. Go to www.mayer-johnson/Downloads.aspx to download a copy. For children with communication difficulties it is an effective way to make visual timetables, communication books or signs for their environment.



Our speech pathology staff are available to assess and provide programming for children with language learning difficulties, literacy challenges, poor phonemic awareness, pragmatic impairment, articulation difficulties,



SCHOOL AGE SERVICES

poor attention, stuttering and voice disorders. We assist students from K-12.

We provide individualised programs based on areas of need identified during a full comprehensive assessment session.

In addition, we are available for staff inservices and training in the area of speech and language.

**Belinda Hill & Associates
Speech-Language Pathologists**

38 Derby St
Kingswood NSW 2747

Phone: 0247 368151
Fax: 0247 368171
E-mail: info@therabee.com

**Affordable Australian Speech and
Language Programs**



In 2002, Belinda first published her TheraBee speech and language programs. There are now 12 programs in the series available for purchase.

The programs are useful for preschool and school age children with speech and language difficulties. Sales have been achieved both Australia wide and internationally. Download free samples from our website!

A new series of TheraBee programs will be launched later in 2009 covering early communication and school age language skills.



Current Staff

Jenny McVicar and Betty Jones, our front desk receptionists, are available Monday- Friday to answer any enquiries



Nancy (Parneet) Kaur is our clinic and school based speech-language pathologist.



Melissa Haynes is our Business Manager and is responsible for accounts and Human Relations.



regarding our services and make appointments for clients.



Hibba Nagrial is responsible for our child, adolescent and adult based services.

Scott McVicar assists therapy staff with session preparation and office administration.



Jessica Gaut provides child and adolescent assessment and therapy services.



Belinda Hill is the senior speech pathologist and CEO. She maintains a mixed caseload in addition to managing staff and authoring TheraBee programs. She is responsible for rural and out-reach services.

