

# Position Description Speech Pathologist



Children's Services  
Since 1895

<b>POSITION TITLE:</b> Speech Pathologist	<b>DEPARTMENT:</b> Allied Health Team	<b>DATE:</b> December 2019
<b>REPORTS TO:</b> Manager, Allied Health	<b>POSITIONS REPORTING TO THIS ONE:</b> None	
<p><b>ORGANISATION CONTEXT</b></p> <p>KU Children's Services (KU) is a leading not for profit provider of nearly 140 early childhood education and care services in NSW, VIC, the ACT and QLD. Established in 1895, KU is one of Australia's most experienced and respected providers of long day care, preschool, outside school hours care, occasional care, family programs and early intervention services. KU also operates brokered programs on behalf of the Commonwealth Government and provides professional services to the early childhood sector and the wider community.</p>		
<p><b>PURPOSE OF THE POSITION</b></p> <p>The position is to provide speech therapy to children attending KU centres and to the children within the broader community who require speech therapy services.</p>		
<p><b>NATURE AND SCOPE OF THE POSITION</b></p> <p><b>Major Role</b></p> <p>Responsibilities may include, but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ To work as a member of the KU Allied Health team and as a team member of the KU centres</li> <li>▶ To provide speech therapy services to children attending nominated KU centres and within the broader community</li> <li>▶ To be conversant with KU Children's Services and Government Policies and Procedures</li> </ul>		
<p><b>DECISION MAKING</b></p> <p>The position reports to the Manager of Allied Health Services and works as a team member of the KU centres. The role involves ongoing consultation with families, Centre Directors, Administration Support and other members of the Allied Health team.</p>		
<p><b>INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL RELATIONSHIPS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To liaise with other professionals involved with children receiving speech therapy services where appropriate, in a professional and courteous manner.</li> <li>2. To refer children receiving speech therapy services to other professionals and/or agencies when necessary, in consultation with families and centre staff.</li> <li>3. To work collaboratively with all members of the early childhood centre.</li> </ol>		

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4. To develop and maintain relationships with external services such as NDIS Early Childhood Early Intervention partners, other Allied Health professionals and mainstream educational and community services.

## KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

### Administration

1. To obtain written consent from the families of children referred by KU centre staff, prior to conducting speech pathology services.
2. To conduct initial assessments and review assessments with children referred to the KU Speech Therapy Service in an inclusive setting.
3. To complete initial, and review, assessment reports and to share these reports with families, KU centre staff and other relevant agencies (with permission).
4. To provide written strategies for communication support for the child in the home and centre environments to the child's family and centre staff.
5. To maintain records and record data in accordance with accountability guidelines set by NDIS.

### Children

1. To assess the communication and/or feeding skills of children referred by families and centre staff.
2. To develop communication support strategies for children diagnosed with a communication delay/disorder, in consultation with families and centre staff, to be implemented within the centre and in the home environment.
3. To liaise with other professionals involved with children receiving speech pathology services, where appropriate, in consultation with families and centre staff.
4. To refer children receiving speech pathology services to other professionals and/or agencies when necessary, in consultation with families and centre staff.

### Staff and resource management

1. To provide families and centre staff with resources relating to speech pathology topics as requested.
2. To conduct in-services/training sessions for KU centre staff relating to speech pathology topics as requested.
3. To support KU centre staff to implement communication support strategies as advised by the speech pathologist for specific children receiving speech pathology services.
4. To support KU centre staff to implement general communication support strategies for all children within the centre.
5. To liaise with KU centre staff regarding the strengths, needs and progress of children receiving speech pathology services, and to provide modified support strategies as needed/requested.

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## Families/Community

1. To complete initial, and review, assessment reports and support strategy recommendations, and to share these with families and centre staff.
2. To provide families and centre staff with resources relating to speech pathology topics as requested.
3. To refer children and families to other professionals and services, in consultation with families and centre staff, as appropriate.
4. To conduct workshops/training sessions for families relating to speech pathology topics as requested.
5. To respect the cultural and linguistic diversity of families enrolled in KU centres.
6. To liaise with other professionals and agencies involved with the child to ensure that the child's communication development is consistently supported across the environmental settings the child attends.

## Professional

1. To keep up-to-date with current developments in the speech pathology field.
2. To maintain confidentiality and adhere to the Speech Pathology Australia Code of Ethics and the Early Childhood Australia Code of Ethics.
3. To develop and evaluate professional goals with the Manager Allied Health Services.
4. Knowledge of child protection legislation and its implications for the care and protection of children.

## Other responsibilities

1. To be accountable for the implementation of this service as funded.
2. To carry out further duties as required from time to time.

## Employee Wellness and Safety

1. Take reasonable care for your health, safety and wellness.
2. Take reasonable care to ensure your acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health, safety and wellness of others.
3. Promptly report all hazards, incidents and injuries.
4. Contribute to consultative arrangements in the workplace.
5. Comply with any reasonable instruction given for the purpose of ensuring health, safety and wellness at work.

## EXPERIENCE, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

- ▶ Driver's license
- ▶ Eligibility for membership of Speech Pathology Australia

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- ▶ Qualifications: Bachelor Speech Pathology or Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology), Bachelor Applied Science/Master of Speech Pathology or Bachelor Science (Speech Pathology) or Bachelor of Speech and Language Sciences and Master of Speech Pathology
- ▶ Experience providing speech pathology services to children and families
- ▶ Appropriate Working with Children Check