

## Referral Process

- \* Referrals can be made through the Learning Support Teacher based at each school.
- \* Parental permission is essential before a student is seen by the Speech Language Pathologist. Meetings may be held between parents and school staff to determine whether a referral is appropriate.
- \* CES speech language pathology services are provided independent of other agencies. A new referral is needed, even if the student has had or is currently accessing external therapy services.
- \* The service offered to students is based upon the educational need and is determined in consultation with the school.
- \* Any relevant information should be handed over at the time of referral, such as past reports or contact details for other service providers.

Therapy services funded by:

**ACCIST**

**Cairns Catholic & Independent  
Schools Therapy**

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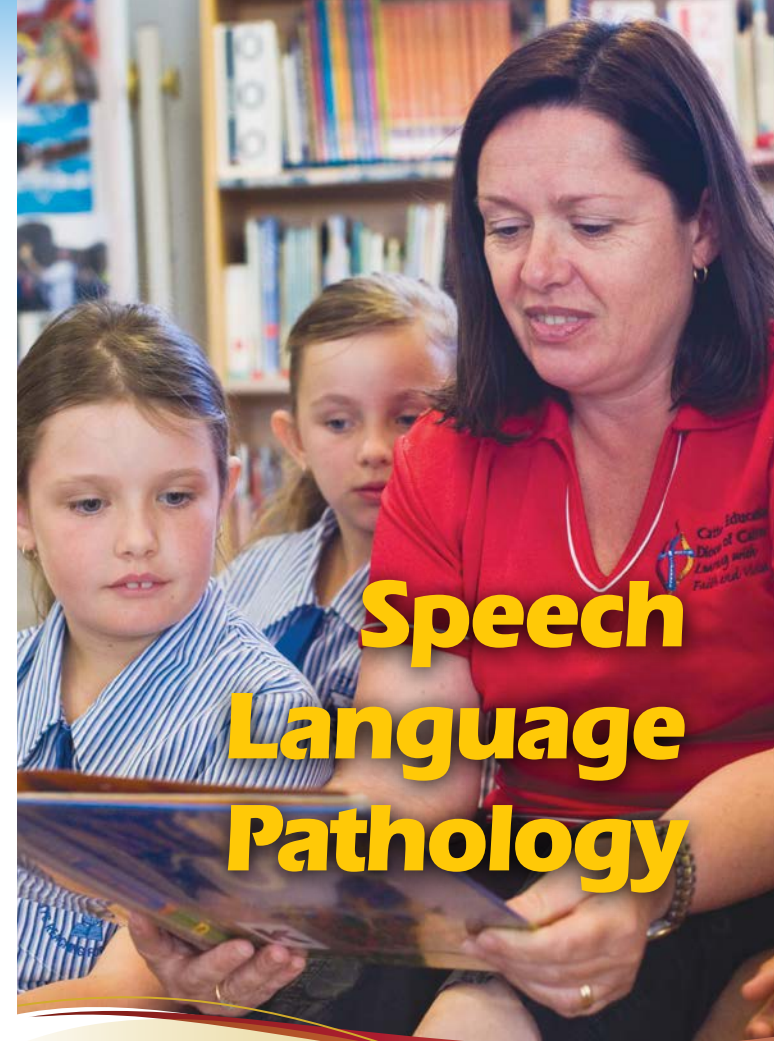
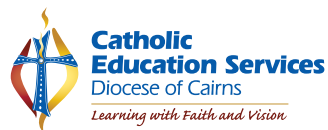


**For additional information  
please contact:**

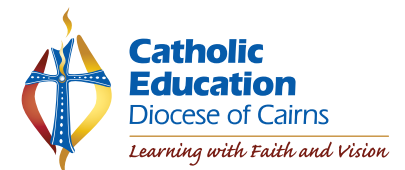
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*Working together,  
including all*



# Speech Language Pathology

## What is a Speech Language Pathologist

Speech Language Pathologists work with students with communication difficulties.

Speech Language Pathologists are specialists at assessing and diagnosing communication difficulties and providing appropriate support and advice, so that the student can achieve to their best ability.

Speech Language Pathologists may examine various aspects of communication such as:

- Sound production
- Use and understanding of spoken language.
- Social Communication
- Fluency difficulties
- Alternative communication
- Literacy



## What Speech Language Pathology Services are provided by CES?

Speech Language Pathology services in the Cairns Diocese have an educational focus. This service is designed to enhance students' educational outcomes and facilitate participation in all aspects of school life.

The services provided in the Cairns Diocese differ to those offered by speech language pathologists from other agencies, such as community health centres or private clinics. While other agencies offer direct therapy as their primary treatment approach, speech language pathologists working in schools aim to support the school team to cater for students' communication needs.

As part of the educational team, Speech Language Pathology services can include:

- Assessment - individual testing, screening, classroom observations, progress reviews
- Support for parents - meetings, home programs, referral to external agencies
- Support for schools - support with programming, support with classroom planning, training staff in specific areas

## Who Is Eligible for Speech Language Pathology Services?

- Students with or without a verified disability (i.e. recognised by Catholic Education Services)
- Students who have communication difficulties, which impact upon their learning and/or participation at school
- Students who have not been responsive to general classroom-based intervention
- Students from Prep to grade 12



*Working together, including all*