



Position Description

Speech Pathologist

Reports to:	Head of Student Engagement (K-12)
Hours of Work:	15 hours per week on a Monday and Tuesday during term-time Occasional after-hours work required
Location:	21 Cleveland Street, Wahroonga, NSW

Position Purpose

The role of the Speech Pathologist at St Lucy's School is to support the development of student's communication and language acquisition in all school contexts. They also support the development of student's social engagement and skills. The Speech Pathologist assists students to participate in the curriculum to the best of their ability. The Speech Pathologist collaborates closely with the classroom teachers and teacher aides to determine the communication/language needs of the students, to set communication goals, and assess the achievement of those goals.

The Speech Pathologist provides support to the students at St Lucy's base school at Wahroonga, as well as the satellite classes located at Strathfield and Castle Hill.

The Speech Pathologist provides training to the staff, and families on a number of communication/language based topics. The Speech Pathologist works in partnership with other members of the St Lucy's Therapy team, including the occupational therapist, and liaises with external speech pathologists working with St Lucy's students.

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Reporting, Team and Client Relationships

This position reports to the Head of Student Engagement (K-12).

The Speech Pathologist is a member of the Therapy team, which includes the other Speech Pathologist, Occupational Therapists and Head of Student Engagement (K-12).

Key Responsibilities

Support of Class Teachers and Students:

- Work closely with classroom staff as allocated to develop and implement school-wide and Tier 2 communication strategies and monitor the implementation of strategies.
- Respond to referrals for support for specific students from teachers and management staff, by assessing needs and collaborating with relevant staff, professionals and parents to achieve optimal outcomes.
- Provide class and small group language and communication sessions to model effective strategies to meet students' needs as appropriate.
- Liaise with classroom staff to assist with becoming familiar with how an Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) system works and how it is best implemented in the classroom.
- Liaise with classroom staff to discuss how to facilitate the social use of communication, successful interactions and /or play skills for students.
- Liaise with classroom staff to assist in setting up SMART communication goals which meet best practice speech pathology standards.
- Collaborate with classroom staff with the aim of understanding what the staff are trying to achieve and to work with them to decide what resources are necessary to achieve this. Assist the classroom staff with the resources and if required demonstrate the use of the resources in the classroom.
- Assist teacher in assessing students' achievement of individual goals.

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- Participate in regular stage meetings and contribute to programming for Focus Units with classroom staff.
- Liaise with parents/carers at twice yearly IEP meetings, or as needed.
- Liaise with external therapists to support consistent goal implementation across home and school.
- Maintain progress notes and student files as required.
- Collaborate with classroom staff in team meetings as required.

Professional Development of Staff and others:

- Contribute to presentations for staff, family members and the wider community on a variety of communication strategies and topics e.g. use AAC including Key Word Sign, LAMP and Proloquo2go.
- Provide training to volunteers and aides to support the implementation of communication needs across the school.

Participation in the Therapy Team

- Collaborate and consult with other members of the St Lucy's Therapy team to develop strong, coordinated therapy support for St Lucy's students.
- Attend regular Therapy team meetings.
- Participate in case conferences with relevant staff, family members and therapists to develop programs for individual students as needed.
- Support specialist staff with professional expertise to optimise students' learning in PE, Drama, Art, Dance and Music.
- Liaise with external speech pathologists working with St Lucy's students.
- Participate in shared interventions with the Occupational Therapists and other members of the multidisciplinary team where appropriate to target particular developmental needs in identified students.

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Maintain high service quality and continuing professional development

- Participate in the St Lucy's Professional Learning Plan Review process with the Head of Student Engagement (K-12) to plan and monitor own professional development.
- Collaborate and co-work with colleagues and seek and provide constructive feedback.
- Reflect on the evidence base for your practice
- Ensure maintenance of appropriate association membership or registration as required (e.g. Speech Pathology Australia)
- Access professional development and supervision outside of St Lucy's as appropriate, and as budget allows.

Other duties

- Attend and actively contribute to staff meetings, curriculum meetings, teacher's aide meetings and Therapy team meetings.
 - Undertake playground duties as assigned by Coordinator of Administration.
 - Facilitate play activities whilst on duty to improve student outcomes.
 - Provide extra support to classes during special school events as allocated by Deputy Principal or Coordinator of Administration.
 - Attend and assist at extra-curricular St Lucy's school events as per the school calendar. Some events may occur at weekends or evenings.

Knowledge, Skills and Experience

- Speech Pathology Degree with at least 1 year's clinical experience.
- Interest and experience in delivering therapeutic programs to children with disabilities.
- Knowledge, skills and experience to perform the accountabilities of the role without instruction.

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- First Aid qualifications.
- Current Working With Children Clearance.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Outlook, Microsoft Word.
- Honest, reliable and a high standard of integrity.
- Punctual with sound time-management skills.
- Demonstrated ability to act with tact and discretion, maintaining the highest level of confidentiality.
- Capacity to multi-task and work quickly and efficiently.
- Capability to work cooperatively within a team environment.
- Demonstrated ability to exercise independent initiative and judgement when required.

The Employer reserves the right to vary this position description in response to its changing needs

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