

Programs for Schools

UQ's Health & Rehabilitation Clinics offers a number of specialist programs in audiology, occupational therapy and speech pathology for schools.

The UQ Health and Rehabilitation Clinics works with schools and teachers to offer additional assistance for children requiring extra support to meet their educational, social and participation goals. From hearing screenings and speech, language and literacy development to skills development programs, we provide individualised, comprehensive assessments and interventions to enhance a child's development, learning and educational outcomes.

Audiology

Hearing impairments can have an impact on a child's learning and participation in classroom and family life. Children with a hearing loss may experience speech and language delays, educational difficulties, behavioural problems and often require increased educational support.

The **Audiology Clinic** offers a hearing screening program that can be delivered across the educational lifespan. By implementing this program we aim to increase awareness of normal hearing function and hearing impairments across the wider community including parents, teachers and other school staff. The program is designed to identify a child's basic hearing sensitivity and middle ear status and identify those children who may have difficulty hearing in classroom environments so that further action can be taken to make learning easier.

The program:

- is conducted at the school during school hours and is generally offered to prep and early primary children, however older children can be screened on request
- includes pure tone audiometry screening under headphones to assess sensitivity levels for both ears across a frequency range important for speech and language development
- also includes screening tympanometry which is an objective assessment of middle ear function to generally detect any middle ear problems
- each child receives a summative report on the day
- identifies those children who would benefit from additional hearing assessment

Further assessment is available at the Audiology Clinic, located at the UQ St Lucia campus.



Occupational Therapy

The **OT Children's Life Skills Clinic** will tailor a package of occupational therapy services to address the individual needs of a school.

Skills Development Programs (SDP)

The Skills Development Program is designed for Prep and Grade 1 children, and involves a six week set program of a screening session plus an additional five weeks of skill development sessions that address early handwriting and scissor skills, general co-ordination and self-management. This set program is delivered at a whole class level and is designed to promote development of core skills as well as identify any students who may need full occupational therapy assessment and further assistance.

Individuals who are identified as requiring more extensive OT assessment or intervention can be referred to the Children's Life Skills Clinic (CLSC) at the UQ St Lucia campus or alternative arrangements to be treated privately at the school by OT-CLSC following the SDP can be considered.

Custom Designed Programs (CDP)

For schools that have students with identified needs, a more custom designed program is recommended to address concerns and promote participation of these students in the classroom. These programs are 10 weeks of therapy-based or classroom based strategy development and implementation. Depending on the needs of the school, the custom designed program may include a combination of:

- Focus on specific classrooms which have several students with extra needs in relation to learning, attention and self-management, and social interaction
- Developing and demonstrating strategies within these classrooms to allow greater participation for all students and promote the learning of those students with identified needs
- Full occupational therapy assessment of selected students who are having particular difficulty at school
- Individualised classroom strategies for these selected students to address identified goals for learning and participation.

Speech Pathology

The **Speech Pathology Clinic** offers custom designed programs to address the individual and classroom concerns related to speech/language and literacy that have been identified via teacher consultation and observation. These programs are designed to offer individual assessments and individual or group interventions.

Depending on the needs of the school, the custom designed program may include a combination of:

- Creation of specific programs that are teaching and learning focused
- Facilitating teacher professional development to maximise the student outcomes
- Preparation of resources to enable effective delivery of services for the students, teacher and school
- Early intervention for Prep classes/ students – pre-speech and language interventions and pre-literacy skill development
- Year 1-7 speech/ language and literacy skill development.



Individual assessment and therapy sessions are also available at the Speech Pathology Clinic, located at UQ's St Lucia campus.

For further information or to book UQ Health & Rehabilitation Clinics Schools Program for your school, please contact us on (07) 3365 2232, email healthclinics@uq.edu.au or visit www.uq.edu.au/healthclinics