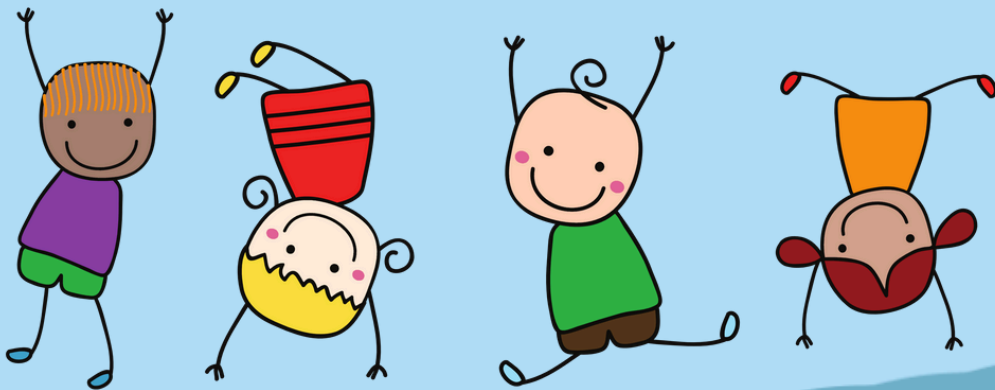


# → WELCOME

## TO SPEECH THERAPY

The child's voice is the voice of  
the future.

FRED ROGERS (MISTER ROGERS)



# TOODLE-LOO

## SPEECH PATHOLOGY



---

## 1 Welcome & Introduction

PAGE 02



---

## 2 What is Speech Therapy?

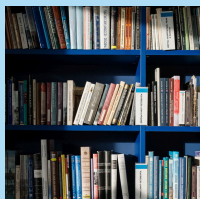
PAGE 03



---

## 3 What you can expect in therapy

PAGE 04



---

## 4 Communication strategies

PAGE 05



---

## 5 Policies & Procedures

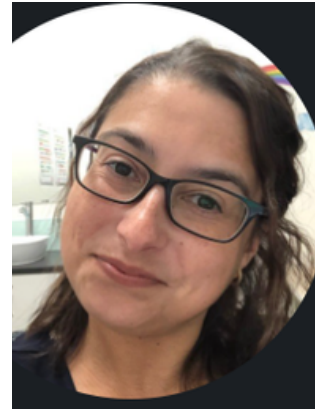
PAGE 06



Welcome Booklet

# CONTENTS

# Welcome & INTRODUCTION



WELCOME TO SPEECH THERAPY



Welcome to Toodle-Loo Speech Pathology! I'm so happy to be here to support your child and their communication needs. My approach to therapy is all about supporting your child's communication in a warm, play-based environment. I believe that every child's journey is unique, so I focus on developing their skills in a fun and holistic way—empowering both the child and family every step of the way. I look forward to working together and helping your child grow stronger and more confident!

Hello and Welcome to Toodle-Loo Speech Pathology. I'm **Louise** and I am so happy to be working with you. I am a Certified Practising Speech Pathologist with several years of experience in working with kids and their families to improve their communication and developmental skills and achieve their personal goals.

I earned my Masters of Speech Pathology from La Trobe University and I've since had the privilege of working with a diverse range of clients. My area of focus is paediatrics with a passion for Early Intervention.

As a mother of a proud ADHDer who began speech therapy when he was 2.6 years old, I deeply understand the commitment and incredible benefits of early intervention,

and I'm dedicated to helping others experience the same positive impact that it had on my child's development.

I'm passionate about using a personalised, play-based, neurodiverse affirming approach to therapy, and I truly believe that every child has the potential to succeed.

My goal as a therapist is to make therapy both effective and enjoyable with a focus on establishing a meaningful connection with my clients.

I'm really looking forward to getting to know you better and helping you on your journey. If you ever have any questions or need clarification about the therapy process, don't hesitate to reach out—I'm here to help!

# SPEECH THERAPY

What is it & what we do

**SPEECH THERAPY HELPS CHILDREN IMPROVE THEIR COMMUNICATION SKILLS, INCLUDING SPEAKING CLEARLY, USING & UNDERSTANDING LANGUAGE, AND SOCIALISING WITH OTHERS. EARLY INTERVENTION IS KEY TO HELPING CHILDREN BUILD STRONG SPEECH AND LANGUAGE SKILLS.**

## **What areas do Speech Pathologists work on?**

Speech Pathologists work across the age range from birth to end of life. We support many areas from stuttering to swallowing.

At **Toodle-Loo**, I focus on Early Intervention and developing Pre-School aged skills, including:

- Pre-linguistic and Early Language skills
- Articulation (pronunciation)
- Understanding & using language
- Social communication skills
- Pre-literacy skills

These are targeted using a play-based, evidence-based approach that prioritises connection over compliance and considers the many developmental domains of a child including cognitive and sensory needs.

## **Why is Speech Therapy Important?**

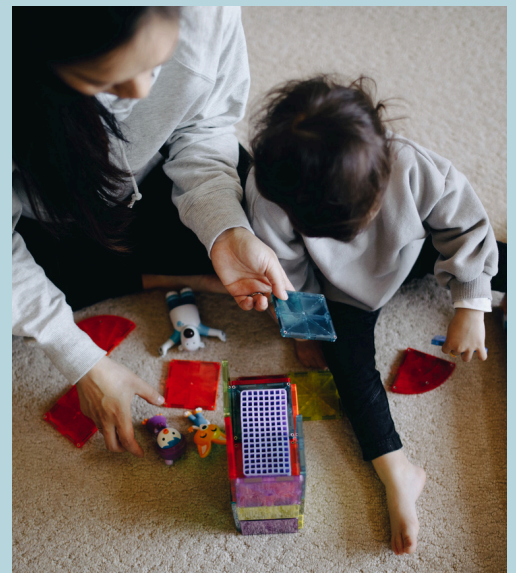
Speech therapy is important for a multitude of reasons:

- improves communication skills
- boosts confidence and self-esteem
- supports academic success
- enhances social and community participation
- aids in emotional expression

## **What is Early Intervention (E.I.)?**

Early Intervention (E.I.) means starting therapy as soon or as young as possible. The earlier a child starts receiving support, the better outcomes they will have.

At **Toodle-Loo**, I work with children as young as 18 months old and up to 6 years of age (or when they start Primary School). Once your child reaches 6 years of age, they are discharged from Toodle-Loo and referred to a different clinician.





## PRIOR TO YOUR FIRST SESSION

So you've had your discovery call where we find out if Toodle-Loo is the right fit for you. **Now what?**

I've scheduled you for an initial therapy session But there are some things **you will need to do first:**

Make sure you have completed the forms sent to you **before** your first session. This may include:

- Service agreement
- Acknowledgement of procedures & policies
- Initial case history form

These forms, along with your current NDIS plan and your plan manager's details (if applicable), **must** be submitted to Toodle-Loo for your session to proceed.

If you're a **private client**, you can reach out to your GP before your session to request an **Enhanced Primary Care (EPC) Plan**, which covers 5 Allied Health sessions. Payment is due upfront on the day of your session, and you can then claim a subsidy through Medicare afterwards. If you have Private Health Insurance, contact your provider to confirm if Speech Pathology is covered. During your first visit, your therapist can also discuss whether you're eligible for NDIS support.



## YOUR FIRST SESSION

In the first session, we'll review your child's history to understand their needs, make a diagnosis, and begin planning for future therapy.

Please have the following things ready for your initial session:

- Child's developmental book (Green folder)
- Any reports from GP, Paediatrician, or Maternal Health Nurse, previous assessments, progress notes, etc

During this first session, we will also:

- Complete initial language, articulation, and oro-motor screeners
- Discuss eligibility for NDIS funding
- Provide communication strategies
- Discuss goals and set up ongoing appointments
- Develop rapport with child

Each **initial** session is scheduled for **90-minutes** to allow sufficient time to gather all relevant information and complete all activities. Subsequent sessions are **45-minutes long** (+ 15 minutes for note writing, totalling 60 minutes).

## WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT IN THERAPY?

Therapy sessions are usually play-based and clinician-led. Play-based therapy makes learning feel like a fun experience, helping children feel comfortable and motivated to participate.

The overall length of speech therapy required varies depending on the child's individual needs, goals, and progress.

# What to expect in therapy at TOODLE-LOO



# STRATEGIES

---



## GET FACE-TO-FACE

Sit or kneel at your child's level so they can see your face and how you form words.



## FOLLOW THEIR LEAD

When playing with your child, follow what they are doing and let them be in charge of the play.



## SIMPLIFY YOUR LANGUAGE

Use short, simple sentences like "big ball!" or "Car go!" to make it easier for them to understand. Break longer instructions down into manageable chunks such as "get shoes."



## PAUSE AND WAIT

Give your child extra time to respond - count to five in your head after you say something.



## REPEAT AND EXPAND

Repeat what they say and add an additional word. If your child says "dog," you can add to it: "Yes, big dog!"



## USE GESTURES

Point, wave, or act out what you're saying to give more context and support understanding.



## LABEL EVERYTHING

Name objects, actions, and feelings as you go about your day: "Spoon," "Eating," "Happy!"



## SING AND RHYME

Use songs and rhymes to make learning new words fun and engaging. Make up your own songs using existing tunes.



## BE PLAYFUL & CELEBRATE ALL ATTEMPTS

Use silly voices, sounds, or facial expressions to capture your child's attention and encourage interaction. Praise your child's efforts to communicate, even if it's just a sound or a gesture.



All policies for **Toodle-Loo Speech Pathology**, including information on cancellations, payments, and privacy are available in your service agreement and on my website ([www.toodleloospeech.com](http://www.toodleloospeech.com)). I encourage you to review these policies to ensure you are fully informed about my services. If you have any questions or need clarification, please don't hesitate to contact me directly.

### **What you should know:**

- If you need to cancel or reschedule, please provide at least 48 hours' notice to avoid any charges. Cancellations made within this time will be charged at the full session rate.
- Payments are required promptly within 7 days of invoice via bank transfer. Alternatively, you can pay on the day using your bank or credit card.
- Toodle-Loo Speech Pathology is committed to providing a safe and respectful environment for all clients, families, and staff. Aggressive, threatening, or abusive behavior towards staff will not be tolerated. If such behavior occurs, services may be suspended or terminated immediately.
- If you wish to leave Toodle-Loo's services, 7 days' written notice is required. This allows time to wrap up support smoothly and ensure the best transition for everyone.
- If you have any questions, feel free to reach out! If you have any concerns or issues, please refer to your service agreement for the appropriate organisational contact details.

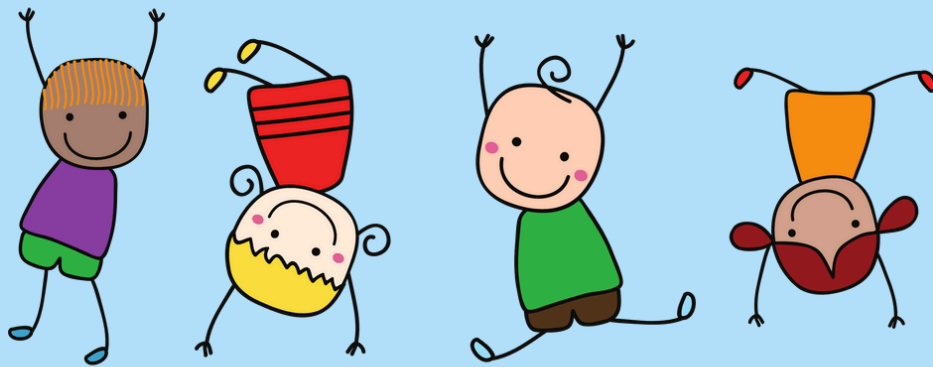
# POLICIES



FIND ME ON FACEBOOK  
@TOODLE LOO SPEECH PATHOLOGY



FIND ME ON INSTA  
@ TOODLE.LOO.SPEECH



# TOODLE-LOO

## SPEECH PATHOLOGY

PO BOX 887, WERRIBEE, VIC 3030  
WWW.TOODLELOOSPEECH.COM  
TOODLELOOSPEECH@GMAIL.COM  
ABN: 44 897 145 957