

What is a Speech and Language Pathologist?

A Speech and Language Pathologist is a professional who works with people who experience communication difficulties/disorders. In the school setting this includes support to students with a variety of needs:

- ✓ language comprehension
- ✓ oral language (vocabulary), grammar, social interactions)
- ✓ articulation
- ✓ fluency (stuttering)
- ✓ voice difficulties
- ✓ Alternative/Augmentative Communication.



How Does the Teacher or Family Access These Services?

The referral is initiated by consultation between the parent and the teacher. Referrals are directed through the School-Based Team and submitted to Student Services for appropriate follow up. Once the student is assessed, the results are shared with the School-Based Team, including the parent and the classroom teacher.

Appropriate programming and support for the student is then put in place. The type of intervention will depend on the needs of the student. Some examples are:

- ✓ Regular therapy
- ✓ Home programs
- ✓ Classroom strategies
- ✓ School support
- ✓ Consultation and programming at IEP meetings.

What Population Does Speech and Language Programming Serve?

The Speech and Language Pathologist provides evaluation, consultation and therapy from Kindergarten through Grade 3. For grades 4 through twelve, consultative services are available.



What Are Some Signs to Look For...

- ✓ Conversational speech or words may be difficult to understand by parents and/or strangers
- ✓ Immature oral language with many grammatical errors
- ✓ Difficulty (confusion) with or cannot follow directions. May need visual clues to assist with understanding
- ✓ Hesitations or 'repetitive' speech
- ✓ Hoarse or nasal voice
- ✓ Lack of response to sound and/or frequent ear infections
- ✓ Health issues that may affect the acquisition of good speech and language.



Contact Information

Your Child's School

or

Director of Learning

Learning Support Services

School District 10

(Arrow Lakes)

98 6th Avenue NW

Nakusp, BC

V0G 1R0

Office: 250-265-3638

Ext. 3320

peter.dubinsky@sd10.bc.ca

STUDENT LEARNING SERVICES

SPEECH & LANGUAGE
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