

Speech-Language Pathology in Your School

Allied Health Community - Edmonton Zone

We work together with teachers, school staff and parents to help children and youth participate and communicate at school and at home.

What do RCSD Speech-Language Pathology Services look like?

- As part of your school's multidisciplinary School-Linked Team, the Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) works with teachers, parents and students to build success in the classroom and help children communicate in everyday settings.
- SLPs and/or SLP Assistants help students, parents and teachers to understand and respond to communication and academic needs. SLPs may provide a number of services such as assessment, classroom observation and programming, small group or individual consultation, and augmenting communication to support participation.

How can SLPs help your students?

- Work with teachers and the education team to adapt classroom activities for students with communication difficulties
- Assist teachers in integrating language-based strategies into curricular lessons in order to facilitate student success
- Share information and resources
- Partner with families to help children communicate successfully

Who can SLPs help?

- SLPs have a deep knowledge and understanding of speech, language, literacy and communication development, delays and disorders. SLPs work together with teachers, parents and the learning team to support students' ability to access the curriculum in all subjects and to participate fully in the classroom.

How can I access SLP services?

- Discuss your concerns with your school coordinator, who can contact the School-Linked SLP to determine appropriate next steps.
- Talk to the parent about the concerns and find out whether they have similar concerns.

For speech and language tips, visit the Talk Box:

<http://humanservices.alberta.ca/family-community/talk-box.html>

Who may benefit from RCSD Speech-Language Services?

The focus of this service is to help the school develop appropriate supports for children whose communication concerns impact their ability to participate in their educational program. Use this chart to help you identify areas of difficulty to discuss with your school's coordinator and your School-Linked SLP.

Language Concerns	Emergent Literacy, Literacy, and Numeracy Skills	Social/Behavioural
Difficulty compared to grade level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • participating in conversations • expressing needs, thoughts and ideas • telling stories • following instructions in the classroom • understanding and/or using a wide range of age-level vocabulary • using grammar • relating personal events with sufficient detail to be understood 	Difficulty compared to grade level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • matching letters to sounds • identifying beginning or ending sounds in words • sounding out words for reading and/or spelling • organizing and writing stories • recognizing and understanding key words for school work (e.g. math word problems) • using higher-order thinking skills (e.g. problem-solving, making inferences, predicting) 	Difficulty: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • listening and/or paying attention • making/keeping friends • staying on topic • participating in conversations appropriately • understanding facial expressions, gestures or body language • understanding and following classroom routines • transitioning between activities

Your RCSD School-Linked SLP can also help you access services for students with other health-related speech/language concerns, such as:

Speech Concerns	Stuttering/Fluency Concerns	Voice Concerns	Other Concerns
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • difficulty speaking clearly (e.g. saying speech sounds) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • stuttering or choppy sounding speech 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • unusual pitch • too quiet or too loud • unusual vocal quality (e.g. raspy or nasal) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hearing or listening difficulties • frequent ear infections