

Speech and Language Services

THE POWER OF LANGUAGE

“Language is the basis for thinking, communicating, and learning. Students need language skills to comprehend ideas and information, to interact socially, to inquire into areas of interest and study, and to express themselves clearly and demonstrate their learning.”

Ontario Ministry of Education, The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 1-8: Language, 2023

Who are we?

Speech-Language Pathologists (S-LPs) are part of the Durham District School Board’s (DDSB) Inclusive Student Services. Our team has specialized training in communication, speech, language, and literacy. We work with students, families, educators, and professionals to create inclusive and accessible learning environments. All S-LPs have a master’s degree and are registered with the College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists of Ontario (CASLPO).

What do we do?

S-LPs respect and honour each student’s unique identity, lived experiences, and ways of communicating. S-LPs support students’ academic, social, and emotional success through:

- **Assessments** – Evaluating speech, language, and communication skills using various assessment methods that respect each student’s development, home language, and culture.
- **Collaboration** – Partnering with educators, support staff, families, and other professionals to set goals and strategies that make learning accessible.
- **Training & Support** – Teaching and modeling ways to enhance communication skills for all, including Alternative and Augmentative Communication (AAC) users.
- **Workshops** – Providing learning opportunities for parents, educators, and community partners.
- **Community Connections** – Coordinating with community agencies and making referrals when needed (e.g., Grandview Kids School-Based Rehabilitation Services).

Who We Support

We work with students from kindergarten to Grade 12 to help them:

- Understand spoken language, written text, and/or picture communication symbols.
- Express themselves through speech, writing, and other communication methods.
- Develop communication skills for social interactions.

While early intervention is a priority, we support students of all ages.

Accessing Our Services

- Services can be requested by parents/guardians, students, school staff, or community agencies (with consent) through the school's Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT).
- Parental/guardian informed consent is required before services begin.

Consent & Privacy

We follow the ethical guidelines of the College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists of Ontario (CASLPO) and comply with the Personal Health Information Protection Act (PHIPA) to ensure your child's privacy.

How to connect with Speech and Language Services

For more information, contact the Senior Manager and Clinical Lead of Speech-Language and Hearing Services:

1-800-265-3968 ext. 6378 or 905-666-6378

[**DDSB Speech and Language Services**](#)

**Inclusive
STUDENT SERVICES**