

# Speech & Language Services



## Information for Families and Schools

### Introduction

Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) have specialized training in all areas of communication, including language, speech, literacy, fluency, voice, feeding/swallowing, and hearing.

### Access & Supports

Rocky View School's Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) provide consultation, screening, specialized assessment, intervention, and equipment (speech generating devices) for students (pre-K through to grade 12) experiencing communication challenges that **significantly impact their learning and participation in the classroom and/or school environment.**

SLP service delivery aligns with the division's Inclusive Education Practice Guide and is delivered through the multi-tiered Learning Supports Service Delivery Framework. SLPs engage with school learning support teams and divisional teams to support students who have significant challenges learning and/or participating in class due to difficulties with communication. The SLP provides a continuum of services at the universal, targeted, and specialized levels; this engagement involves working with teachers and the school learning support team to collaboratively problem solve, identify, and support the implementation of appropriate strategies to meet student needs.

In consultation and collaboration with Alberta Health Services, specific supports for school-aged students with communication challenges are identified and available through Rocky View Schools (RVS) and Alberta Health Services (AHS).

## RVS

RVS SLPs provide support for students experiencing *communication challenges that impact learning and participation* in the following areas:

- Receptive language (understanding of language – oral and written)
- Expressive language (use of language/oral and written language expression)
- Literacy
- Complex Communication Needs (CCN) – students who cannot express their wants and needs through speech alone and may benefit from the use of alternative or augmentative communication (AAC)
- Social communication/interaction
- Feeding care plans (in collaboration with an Occupational Therapist) to support safe eating at school only OR to support positioning and recommendations from a medical assessment.

Parents who have concerns with their child's language or literacy skills are to discuss with their child's teacher or principal.

## AHS

AHS Pediatric Rehabilitation Services provide school-aged students and their families with support for the following:

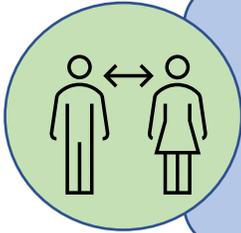
- Speech sound disorders (including apraxia)
- Fluency/Stuttering
- Voice/Resonance
- Feeding/Swallowing

### Nature of Services

- Services may be provided in person, by phone, or by video conference.
- Services are family-centred and focus on prioritized functional goals within home and community environments
- Emphasize collaboration and information sharing

Parents who have concerns with their child's speech, fluency/stuttering, or voice/resonance skills can contact AHS services by calling the intake number: 403-910-2070

# How RVS SLPs provide support for schools



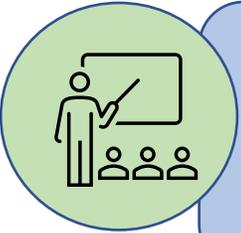
## Consultation, Collaboration, Coaching

Through consultation, collaborative problem-solving, and coaching, support planning and curriculum access, educational goal setting, and universal strategies.



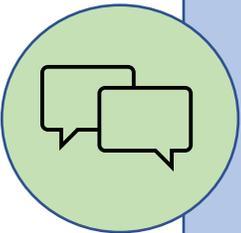
## Specialized Assessment

Provide specialized assessments to guide intervention, identify communication challenges that directly impact student success, and provide strategies and recommendations to support communication in the classroom.



## Professional Learning

Provide division-wide and school-based professional learning on topics related to communication and education.



## Intervention

Provide evidence informed interventions to support communication within the educational environment, as well as consult with other educational professionals.

This may include strategies for classroom instruction and programming, team teaching, modeling, and coaching of activities and strategies for staff, targeted groups, introduction of speech generating devices and ongoing support for implementation.

**Note:** RVS SLP services do not involve direct one-to-one pull out therapy or intervention.