

Position Description

Position	Speech Language Therapist
Team / Service	Child Development Service Hutt Valley
Directorate	Surgery, Women's and Children's
District	Capital, Coast & Hutt Valley
Responsible to	Manager Child Development Service Hutt District
Children's Act 2014	This position is classified as a children's worker, requiring a safety check including police vetting before commencing and every three years
Location	This position is expected to work from Hutt Child Development with potential for need to work at other locations throughout the region

Te Whatu Ora

The Health System in Aotearoa is entering a period of transformation as we implement the Pae Ora/Healthy Futures vision of a reformed system where people live longer in good health, have improved quality of life, and there is equity between all groups.

We want to build a healthcare system that works collectively and cohesively around a shared set of values and a culture that enables everyone to bring their best to work and feel proud when they go home to their whānau, friends and community. The reforms are expected to achieve five system shifts. These are:

1. The health system will reinforce Te Tiriti principles and obligations
2. All people will be able to access a comprehensive range of support in their local communities to help them stay well
3. Everyone will have equal access to high quality emergency and specialist care when they need it
4. Digital services will provide more people the care they need in their homes and communities
5. Health and care workers will be valued and well-trained for the future health system

Context

Capital, Coast & Hutt Valley district provides hospital and health services in primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare to a total population base of approximately 445,000 citizens.

We are accountable for meeting the needs of and improving health outcomes for all the constituent populations of our district, and the region more broadly. Together we:

- provide secondary and tertiary, medical and surgical hospital services alongside community based health care
- fund local health providers and work collaboratively with the community to create and support multiple health education initiatives and projects within the region
- deliver health services directly as well as contracting external providers
- provide local, sub-regional, regional and national health services as well as community-based health, rehabilitation and support services.

The majority of the district's population live in Wellington and Lower Hutt. The Māori and Pacific populations of Lower Hutt and Wellington are proportionally similar, with the largest Pacific population in the region in Porirua. Kapiti and Upper Hutt have similar numbers of Māori and Pacific people. Most people are enrolled with a GP near their place of residence, so the increasing focus on community-based healthcare is expected to lead to better health outcomes for these population groups. Hutt Hospital provides secondary and some tertiary, medical and surgical hospital services alongside community based health care from its main facility in Lower Hutt City. In addition to funding local health providers and working collaboratively with the community to create and support multiple health education initiatives and projects, Hutt Hospital is the centre for five tertiary regional and sub-regional services - Plastics, Maxillofacial and Burns Services; Rheumatology; Dental Services; Regional Public Health; and Regional (Breast and Cervical) Screening Services.

MHAIDS is the mental health, addictions and intellectual disability service for the Wairarapa District and Capital, Coast & Hutt Valley District, with multiple specialist facilities. Ratonga Rua-o- Porirua is our forensic, rehabilitation and intellectual disability inpatient unit.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi and Māori Health Outcomes

Māori are the indigenous peoples of Aotearoa. We have particular responsibilities and accountabilities through this founding document of Aotearoa. We value Te Tiriti and have adopted the following four goals, developed by the Ministry of Health, each expressed in terms of mana and the principles of:

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|------------------------|--|
| Mana whakahaere | Effective and appropriate stewardship or kaitiakitanga over the health and disability system. This goes beyond the management of assets or resources. |
| Mana motuhake | Enabling the right for Māori to be Māori (Māori self-determination); to exercise their authority over their lives, and to live on Māori terms and according to Māori philosophies, values and practices including tikanga Māori. |
| Mana tāngata | Achieving equity in health and disability outcomes for Māori across the life course and contributing to Māori wellness. |
| Mana Māori | Enabling Ritenga Māori (Māori customary rituals) which are framed by Te Aō Māori (the Māori world), enacted through tikanga Māori (Māori philosophy & customary practices) and encapsulated within mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge). |

We will target, plan and drive our health services to create equity of health care for Māori to attain good health and well-being, while developing partnerships with the wider social sector to support whole of system change.

The Vision, Mission and Values from our District

We bring forward and join our values within our district. These will change as we become a team of teams within Te Whatu Ora.

Hutt Valley

Vision

Whanau Ora ki te Awakairangi: Healthy people, healthy families and healthy communities are so interlinked that it is impossible to identify which one comes first and then leads to another.

Mission

Working together for health and wellbeing.

Ō mātou uara – Values

Mahi Pai 'Can do': Mahi Tahi in Partnership: Mahi Tahi Te Atawhai Tonu Always caring and Mahi Rangatira being our Best

Capital and Coast

Vision

Keeping our community healthy and well

Mission

Together, Improve the Health and Independence of the People of the District

Value

Manaakitanga – Respect, caring, kindness
Kotahitanga – Connection, unity, equity
Rangatiratanga – Autonomy, integrity, excellence

District Responsibility

The district leadership have collective accountability for leading with integrity and transparency a progressive, high performing organisation, aimed at improving the health and independence of the community we serve and achieving equitable outcomes for all. The leadership team are responsible for achieving this aim, aligned with our Region, within the available resources, through a skilled, empowered, motivated and supported workforce in line with government and HNZ policy.

Te Whatu Ora is committed to Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles of partnership, participation, equity and protection by ensuring that guidelines for employment policies and procedures are implemented in a way that recognises Māori cultural practices.

We are committed to supporting the principles of Equal Employment Opportunities (EEO) through the provision and practice of equal access, consideration, and encouragement in the areas of employment, training, career development and promotion for all its employees.

Service Perspective

The Child Development Service (CDS) is a multidisciplinary team providing specialist developmental assessment, diagnosis and intervention for children with disabilities and/or developmental delays. The team works within a transdisciplinary model, using a holistic approach to enable children to reach their maximum potential within their families and extended environment.

The team is comprised of the following disciplines: Speech Language Therapists, Visiting Neurodevelopmental Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Clinical Psychologists, Developmental Paediatricians, Social Worker, and ASD Coordinator. We have a small team of support staff to assist the work undertaken.

Wherever possible the disciplines work closely with each other to provide integrated care for the children and families we see. The team has strong relationships with other areas of the District including Children's

Health Service and the Allied Health Therapies teams. Team members also work collaboratively and liaise with colleagues in the Education sector and other agencies where necessary.

Funding for the team is from Ministry of Social Development via Te Whatu Ora

Purpose of the role

Based at Hutt Valley the Speech-language Therapist will have a comprehensive understanding of the theory underpinning paediatric communication, feeding and swallowing disorders and be able to demonstrate advanced clinical reasoning when working with infants and children with communication, feeding and swallowing difficulties.

They will have particular skills in neurodevelopmental assessment and intervention skills working with children with long term conditions and disabilities.

The Speech language therapist Hutt Valley works both in the outpatient CDS setting and in the inpatient setting in Hutt neonatal unit and the paediatric ward.

The Speech language therapist will be experience working with people from a wide range of cultures and from a spectrum of high to low deprivation and need. The role works with infant and paediatric patients and their whānau. Speech Language Therapists will, at all times, be culturally safe in their practice and meet the expectation of the Treaty of Waitangi within our work.

Key Accountabilities

The following role accountabilities may evolve with organisational change and there may be additional duties, relevant to this position that will be required to be performed from time to time.

Key Relationships & Authorities

Key accountabilities	Deliverables / Outcomes
1. Clinical practice	Takes legal and professional responsibility for managing own caseload of patients / clients with increasing complexity and be able to independently adapt and make decisions regarding occupational therapy intervention. Utilises information available to prioritise patients/clients to enable appropriate allocation of referrals and workload with staff in the team. Carries out comprehensive assessment with patients (and whānau where appropriate) This may include use of standardised assessments to assist in assessment and intervention planning. Formulates and delivers individualised occupational therapy intervention using comprehensive clinical reasoning skills and in depth knowledge of treatment approaches. This should, take into account the patient's own goals and those of the wider multidisciplinary team (MDT).

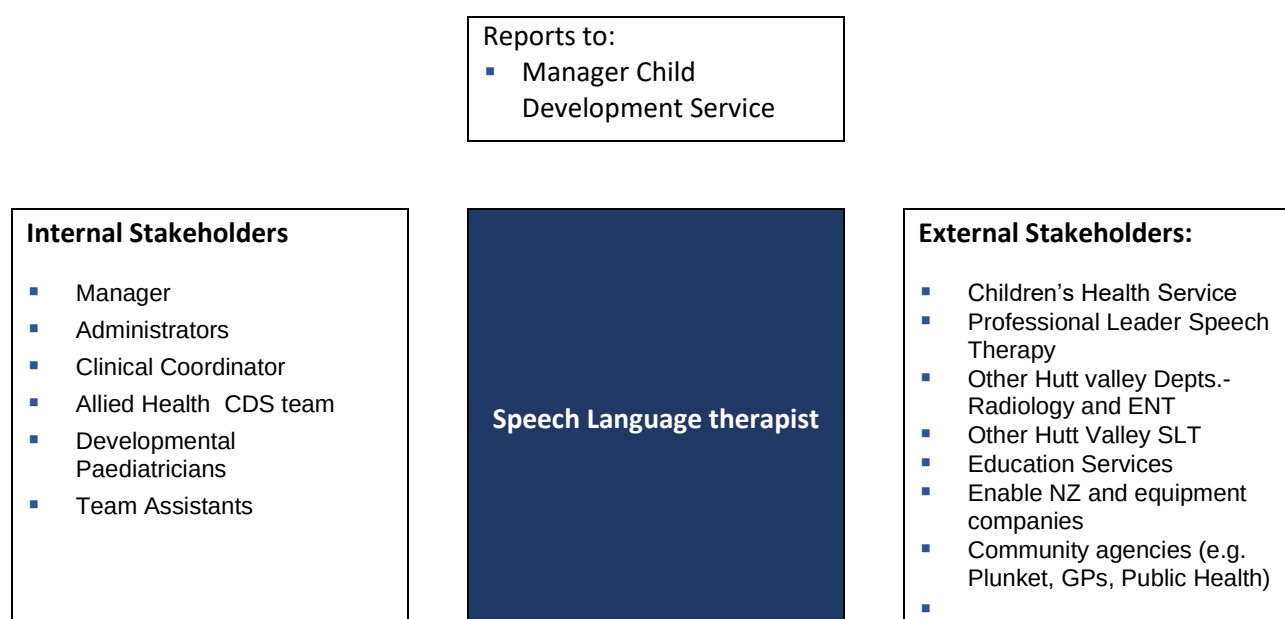
Key accountabilities	Deliverables / Outcomes
	Demonstrates effective communication, to establish a therapeutic relationship and set expectations with patients / clients, whānau and the MDT, inclusive of the wider health team and external agencies as appropriate. This includes relaying complex, sensitive and contentious information. Assesses the patient's understanding of assessment, interventions and goals and gain informed consent for intervention, taking into account those who lack capacity (e.g. those with cognitive difficulties). Regularly reassesses and evaluates the patient / client's progress against identified goals and adjust intervention as situations change. Refers on to other services to work with the patient/client towards achievement of longer term goals. Develop comprehensive discharge / transfer plans as appropriate. Carries out regular clinical risk assessments for patients/ clients on own caseload and takes action to effectively manage identified risks, seeking support where appropriate. Demonstrates provision of culturally safe and bicultural practice with patients and their whānau. Demonstrates an awareness of health inequalities, with evidence of implementing actions within own clinical practice towards reducing these for the patient/client and/or whānau. Represents the service and / or individual patients/clients at clinical meetings and case conferences to ensure the delivery of a coordinated multidisciplinary service and to ensure occupational therapy is integrated into the overall intervention (where appropriate) including discharge planning. Completes documentation consistent with legal and organisational requirements. Adheres to any applicable recognised best practice for occupational therapy and any relevant clinical policies and practice guidelines. Provides advice, teaching and instructions to patients, carers, relatives and other professionals to promote consistency of support being delivered.

Key accountabilities	Deliverables / Outcomes
	Responsible for assessment and prescription of short term equipment, longer term equipment funded by Enable NZ and/or Accessible and minor structural and/or safety adaptations to the patient's home. Demonstrates awareness of local, sub-regional and regional context in relation to provision of health and social support and the impact on service provision. Identifies unmet needs of patients and identifies potential solutions to address these needs. Demonstrates an understanding of the roles of the multidisciplinary team.
2. Teaching and Learning	Maintains competency to practice through identification of learning needs and Continuing Competency (CPD) activities. This should comply with professional registration requirements. Contributes to training within the team/service. Supervises, educates and assesses the performance of occupational therapy students. Provides interdisciplinary education in direct clinical area, or discipline specific teaching across teams. Demonstrates the ability to critically evaluate research and apply to practice. Maintains an awareness of current developments in the clinical areas being worked in and make recommendations to changes in practice. Be involved in the induction and training of newly appointed staff as required. Completes mandatory training as applicable for the role. Participates in an annual performance review and associated clinical assurance activities. Participates in regular professional supervision in line with the organisations requirements and/or professional body.

Key accountabilities	Deliverables / Outcomes
	Provides mentoring and clinical support and / or professional supervision where required.
3. Leadership and management	Attends and contributes to relevant department, clinical and team meetings, leading and facilitating such meetings as requested. Assists team leaders and professional leaders in clinical assurance activities of occupational therapy staff as requested. Directs and delegates work to allied health assistants and support staff as required in the role, ensuring that delegated tasks, documentation and communication is carried out.
4. Service improvement and research	Broadens research and development skills through participation in local audit and research projects as identified by team leaders, professional leaders or Advanced or Expert AH professionals. Participates in quality improvement activities to develop and improve service delivery, clinical practice or professional standards. This may include care pathways / treatment protocols, standards of practice etc. Develops and /or participates in regional / sub regional professional networks as appropriate to area of work. Establishes working partnerships with external organisations to promote integrated working. Contributes to annual planning process, including identifying gaps in service and participating in work / projects that may result from the planning process. Practises in a way that utilises resources (including staffing) in the most cost effective manner.
5. Te Tiriti o Waitangi	- Work in partnership with stakeholders to achieve our equity goals for Māori and ensure Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations are adhered to - Equity outcomes are front and centre in goals, performance monitoring and plans for service and team performance - Cultural competence is grown across the team, supporting inclusion and partnership.
6. Health & Safety	- Ensure all Health & Safety obligations under the legislation are applied and managed to and that a culture of safe practice is second nature - Actively support and ensure compliance with Health & Safety policy and procedures; ensuring staff also support and comply. - Maintain a proactive culture of Health & Safety supported by systems.

Key accountabilities	Deliverables / Outcomes
	Ensure providers are aware of and have processes to comply with their health and safety responsibilities

Key Relationships & Authorities



Direct reports:

- No direct reports

Capability Profile

Solid performance in the role requires demonstration of the following competencies. These competencies provide a framework for selection and development.

Competency	Behaviours
Interpersonal Savvy	▪ Relates well to all kinds of people – up, down, and sideways, inside and outside the organisation ▪ Builds appropriate rapport ▪ Builds constructive and effective relationships ▪ Uses diplomacy and tact ▪ Can diffuse even high-tension situations comfortably
Organising	▪ Can marshal resources (people, funding, material, support) to get things done ▪ Can orchestrate multiple activities at once to accomplish a goal ▪ Uses resources effectively and efficiently ▪ Arranges information and files in a useful manner
Planning	▪ Accurately scopes out length and difficulty of tasks and projects ▪ Sets objectives and goals ▪ Breaks down work into the process steps ▪ Develops schedules and task/people assignments ▪ Anticipates and adjusts for problems and roadblocks ▪ Measures performance against goals ▪ Evaluates results
Decision Quality	▪ Makes good decisions (without considering how much time it takes) based upon a mixture of analysis, wisdom, experience, and judgement ▪ Most of his/her solutions and suggestions turn out to be correct and accurate when judged over time ▪ Sought out by others for advice and solutions
Problem Solving	▪ Uses rigorous logic and methods to solve difficult problems with effective solutions ▪ Probes all fruitful sources for answers ▪ Can see hidden problems' ▪ Is excellent at honest analysis ▪ Looks beyond the obvious and doesn't stop at the first answer
Quality & Innovation	▪ Provides quality service to those who rely on one's work. ▪ Looks for ways to improve work processes - suggests new ideas and approaches. ▪ Explores and trials ideas and suggestions for improvement made by others. ▪ Shows commitment to continuous learning and performance development.
Negotiating	▪ Can negotiate skilfully in tough situations with both internal and external groups; ▪ Can settle differences with minimum noise; ▪ Can win concessions without damaging relationships;

Competency	Behaviours
	- Can be both direct and forceful as well as diplomatic; - Gains trust quickly of other parties to the negotiations; - Has a good sense of timing

Experience and Capability

Essential qualifications, skills and experience

A. Knowledge, Skills & Experience:

- Minimum of 3 years clinical practice working as a Speech Language Therapist, with specific experience working with infants and children with feeding and swallowing disorders
- Skills in:
 - Independently assessing, diagnosing and treating feeding and swallowing disorders in infants and children, including physical and behavioural impairments
 - Performing instrumental dysphagia assessment (e.g., VFSS, FEES) will be expected to undertake training and working towards attaining paediatric dysphagia competencies
 - The ability to consider the child's communication needs within the assessment and intervention plan
 - Knowledge and assessment of the neurodevelopmental norms, and ages and stages of development 0-16 years, in particular ages 0-3 years
 - Use of standardised speech and language assessments such as CELF-4 and the PLS-5 Preschool Language Scales
 - Assessing the impact of premature birth, congenital or acquired conditions, and long term illness or injury, in the context of this knowledge
 - Providing effective and timely therapy and intervention as indicated, including individual and/or group work
 - Working alongside other health professionals to provide specialist assessments for children referred for complex disabilities such as Takiwātanga/ autism spectrum disorder, intellectual disability and Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD)
 - Administration of the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS) desirable
 - Providing education and home programmes to families and other carers
 - Recommending appropriate feeding equipment for the infant or child with feeding or swallowing difficulties
 - Teasing out the multiple factors influencing the wellbeing of the infant or child with complex needs and being able to clearly articulate those factors to the MDT, including the ethical implications, SLT role and management options
 - Liaising with Special Education therapists where a child accesses both services
 - Working with infants and children with feeding disorders related to complex medical conditions or behavioural feeding difficulties.

Desirable skills

- Approved assessor with Enable NZ for personal care and household management (feeding equipment only) is desirable
- Training in supervision is desirable

B. Essential Professional Qualifications / Accreditations / Registrations:

- NZ Registered Speech Language Therapist with current annual practicing certificate
- Member of NZSTA

C. Someone well-suited to the role will place a high value on the following:

- Focus on delivering high quality care for the patient/client/whānau
- Self-motivated in developing clinical and professional practice
- An understanding of the Treaty of Waitangi (and application to health) and commitment work positively in improving health outcomes for Māori
- Current full NZ driver's licence with ability to drive a manual and automatic car
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office, Word, Outlook, PowerPoint, Internet resources and e-mail
- A high standard of written and spoken English

Ma tini, ma mano, ka rapa te whai
By joining together we will succeed