Clients are able to refer themselves directly to this clinic and will be booked in for two initial assessment sessions. These sessions enable us to discuss and understand your individual communications needs, strengths and concerns, plus provide you with information and general management strategies while you wait for treatment.

As treatment places become available, clients may be offered individual or group therapy depending on their areas of difficulty. Treatment is conducted on a weekly or fortnightly basis.

Stuttering is a relapse prone disorder, so maintenance sessions are highly recommended. Individual and group maintenance sessions are offered at this clinic.

WHEN SHOULD I SEEK TREATMENT?

Treatment is more efficient in children than in adults. Some children recover from stuttering but some do not. If a child is stuttering, it is important for them to be referred to a speech pathologist for assessment.

There are effective treatments available for children, adolescents and adults. These include the Lidcombe Program for preschoolers and early school-aged children and smooth speech for adolescents and adults. Evidence shows that the Lidcombe Program is effective in maintaining stutter-free speech in children in normal speaking environments. Actual therapy provided will be individualised for your situation.

To make an appointment, please ring our Clinic Secretary on 08 8204 5959.
FLUENCY DISORDERS CLINIC
“Providing stuttering and cluttering assessment and therapy services to pre-schoolers, school children and adolescents with a fluency disorder”

This clinic is run by an experienced Speech Pathology clinical educator who is employed by Flinders University. Speech Pathology students are directly supervised by the Speech Pathology clinical educator to provide individual programs to participating clients. Each student roster lasts for approximately 3-4 months.

Clients may see more than one student across their treatment program.

THE FLUENCY DISORDERS CLINIC PROVIDES

- Individual Speech Pathology Assessment directed towards you/your child’s specific communication needs.
- Specific feedback regarding Speech Pathology Assessment results, focussing on areas of both strength and weakness.
- Joint goal setting between the client and the student clinician to allow the client to have a significant input into the communication program developed.
- Weekly or fortnightly individual or group therapy programs based on the Speech Pathology assessment results and identified goals.
- Written assessment report detailing assessment results and management recommendations.
- Provision of a home program to encourage and reinforce progress for the duration of the therapy program.
- Access to fluency services via Skype (telehealth). Skype based assessment and treatment sessions are available for clients of all ages on a weekly or fortnightly basis. Priority for this service is given to outer metropolitan, rural and interstate clients. Local clients may also access this service subject to availability. Referrals for Skype based services must have functional, conversational level English.
- Monthly maintenance groups for adults & adolescents who have completed a smooth speech intensive or individual therapy program.

RESEARCH
The Department of Speech Pathology & Audiology regularly conducts research studies into stuttering. If you are interested in being involved in research, contact Michelle Carr Swift on 08 8204 5942 or email: michelle.carr@flinders.edu.au

WHEN DOES THE CLINIC OPERATE?
The Flinders University Fluency Disorders Clinic runs during the university semesters. Individual programs run for as long as required for each client until they have made sufficient progress to be discharged from the service. Clients may choose to terminate their program at any time. Clients may be offered a place in the clinic midway through the semester if discharges have occurred during the semester.

Children who choose to access the Flinders University Speech Pathology Fluency Disorders clinic will not lose their place on the waiting list for Primary Health based Speech Pathology services, and parents whose children are eligible (under 4 years old) are encouraged to register their name with both clinics.

CLINIC DATES
January - December (Thursdays Only)

INITIAL ASSESSMENT SESSIONS
Usually 2 per client, $55 per session (up to 60 mins)

INDIVIDUAL TREATMENT SESSION
$40 per session (up to 60 mins)

GROUP TREATMENT SESSION
$25 per session (up to 60 mins)

MAINTENANCE SESSION
$25 per session (up to 30 mins)

No concessions for Health Care Card holders. No Medicare or Private Health Insurance rebate is available for this service at this time. Fees may be altered according to individual circumstance.