

• **Listening problems**

The child doesn't know what to do with the words, sentences and sounds they are hearing. This will also make learning to read more difficult.

• **Other mouth habits**

The child's mouth is always open, they drool, suck their thumb or fingers all the time. Or, the child has difficulty eating and drinking, chewing, and swallowing.

Where can I find a speech therapist?

Special-needs primary schools will have speech therapists on staff who support the education process. These speech therapists coach children and teachers.

Often, they are employed by the school. The school usually pays for their work from the education budget.

In regular primary schools, speech therapists are usually involved in the pupil's treatment through a speech therapy practice. These speech therapists will coach the children, but not the teachers or the child's education process. Any costs will usually be covered by your health insurance.

Speech therapy does not always have to be provided through school. You can also contact a speech therapy practice directly. Any costs will usually be covered by your health insurance.



Speech therapy

for children from 4 to 12 years old



Contact data



www.logopedie.nl
Scan the QR code and discover
the possibilities of speech therapy.
(In Dutch only!)

**The speech therapist
advises and supports!**



Speech therapists are experts in anything having to do with the voice, speech, language, hearing or swallowing.

Speech therapy
will help a child to
make themselves
better understood

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Some children have a harder time speaking than others. You probably already know that a speech therapist can offer help with that. But speech therapy can help in other situations too.

For example:

- If a child is not able to tell a story understandably
- If a child has difficulty reading
- If a child cannot hear well
- If a child has issues with swallowing

How bad is it if a child has a speech impediment or a language deficiency?

In order to learn and develop yourself, you will need to be able to talk, read and spell words. If talking or reading is giving you a hard time, it can have a big impact on your life. For example, on what you learn and which type of school you will go to; but also on how you well you feel in class and around your friends. As such, it is important to offer speech therapy to a child with speech or language deficiencies at an early age.

What does a speech therapist do?

Speech therapists are experts in teaching you how to communicate well with others. In anything having to do with the voice, speech, language, hearing or swallowing. They not only help the child, but also the teacher or parent. Speech therapists explore, for example, why a child's ability to speak or read isn't developing naturally. And more importantly: what can be done about it.

Speech therapists coach children in groups or alone. They also coach the teachers and parents of these children. How do you deal with a child who has a speech impediment or a language deficiency in the classroom? How do you deal with your child's problem at home? Speech therapists will have the knowledge and experience to help you as a teacher or parent.

How can speech therapy help?

Speech therapy will help a child to make themselves better understood and to understand the other person better. This will make it easier to have a



conversation. Speech therapy will also help the child to learn new words, making it easier to learn to read. Your child will feel more secure when they are able to communicate better. This is important for their ability to learn and in their contact with friends.

When do I need to consult a speech therapist?

Have you noticed a child having one of the issues described below? If so, it is wise to ask a speech therapist for help.

• Difficulty understanding or conveying information

The child doesn't understand you when you ask them a question or give them an assignment. Or, the child has a hard time telling a story clearly. For example, they aren't using verbs correctly, form incorrect sentences or don't know enough words.

• Not being able to speak understandably

A child can't pronounce sounds properly, or has difficulty with combinations of sounds. As a result, they can't pronounce the words correctly, for example. Or, they have a lisp or speak nasally.

• Voice problems

The child has a hoarse or raspy voice, talks too loud or yells.

• Breathing issues

The child breathes too quickly or too deeply, breathes too much or suffers from hyperventilation.

• Hearing problems

The child has a difficulty hearing. As a result, they are developing their ability to read or speak more slowly than normal. In some cases, the child will need to learn lip reading or how to use a hearing aid. Another hearing problem is when the child is very bothered by ambient noises when they are trying to listen.