

ABOUT US

- Providing psychology, speech pathology and occupational therapy services
- Within flexible teamwork models
- 1 day per week during school terms
- Supplementing existing therapy services with time-limited, short-term intervention
- For children from birth to the end of Kindergarten
- Children living or using services in the 2484 postcode
- Prioritising vulnerable children in families from disadvantaged communities
 - Families with children at risk of abuse or neglect
 - Families experiencing disadvantage or vulnerability
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families
- Providing a range of flexible services for children with developmental difficulties who are not accessing any other public or private services.
 - screening assessments and/or
 - transdisciplinary team assessments
 - referral pathways and support
 - therapy sessions (time-limited)
- Building skills of parents and teachers
- Working collaboratively in the community

THERAPY CONNECT ALLIANCE

Postal Address

PO Box 533

West Burleigh Q 4219

Email

Therapy.Connect@therapymatters.com.au

Project Manager

Tania Teitzel

B Sp Thy (Hons) MSPA CPSP

Project Officer

Joanne Bacon

Dip Teaching (Primary)

Psychologist

Karen Plant

MClinPsych PhD MCCP

Occupational Therapist

Charmaine Owen

B Occ Thy MAAOT

Speech Pathologist

Rachel Hull

M Sp Path MSPA CPSP



THERAPY CONNECT ALLIANCE

Speech Pathology | Psychology | Occupational Therapy



Who can refer?

- Early childhood teachers
- Kindergarten teachers
- GPs
- Medical specialists (e.g. paediatricians)
- Therapists and allied health colleagues from other organisations (e.g. community health)
- Community Organisations
- Early Intervention Services



How to Refer?

- Complete the Therapy Connect Referral Form
- Gain parental consent
- Email the form to:
Therapy.Connect@therapymatters.com.au
- Post the form to:
PO Box 533 West Burleigh Q 4219

Helping Parents & Teachers

The Therapy Connect Alliance team will develop strategies and resources to build capacity and skills in early childhood/kindergarten teachers and assist parents to support children with developmental and behavioural difficulties. This will include training opportunities in supporting the social, emotional, cognitive, communication, sensory, play, motor and independence skills of vulnerable children.



Working in the community

Therapy Connect Alliance will work collaboratively with other Communities for Children projects, community health centre, private health providers, early intervention, early childhood settings, schools, doctors and other organisations to meet identified gaps in service and provide co-ordinated services in the Murwillumbah area. Therapy Connect Alliance is not designed to replace existing therapy services rather it has been set up to provide a helping hand for vulnerable and disadvantaged families until they are able to access and engage with the existing therapy services in their community.

What happens next?

Our Project Officer, Jo is the key point of contact. Once a referral is accepted, Jo will meet with families to gather information about the child's needs and the family's priorities. Jo will share this information with the Therapy Connect Alliance Team and the appropriate team members will be allocated. Family centred goals for intervention will be determined collaboratively. Therapy intervention could occur at home, school, early childhood setting, Murwillumbah Community Centre or in the local community. Jo will be the key worker contact for families during the intervention.



What about diagnostic assessments?

Comprehensive diagnostic assessments may be available for prioritised children particularly if such assessments facilitate funding support or referral pathways for the child that would otherwise not be available to them or facilitate their successful transition to the Kindergarten classroom. These comprehensive assessments are only offered when the child and family are not able to access services from other public or private agencies.