



**West Coast
Language Development
Centre**

Changing Futures

Outreach Service

2025

On average, approximately 7% of children have Developmental Language disorder (DLD). That's two students in every classroom.

What We Do

The West Coast Language Development Centre (WCLDC) Outreach Service responds to the distinctive needs of public primary schools with a focus on improving speaking, listening and early literacy learning for students with language difficulties, differences and disorder in the North Metropolitan (coastal), Midwest and Gascoyne Education Districts.

The emphasis is on sustainable capacity building of teacher, school and system to deliver high quality learning opportunities. We work at the network, individual school, leadership and teacher level to provide high quality services that are based on current best practice evidence.

The Outreach Service is a multidisciplinary team, led by an Associate Principal and consisting of Speech and Language Consultants (SLC). A consultant is a speech pathologist with specialist knowledge and experience in language and literacy intervention and instruction for primary school age children.

As a team we develop and deliver high quality professional learning and planning for key teachers and staff for initiatives in speech and language with links to literacy and identified school priorities/assessment data.

Remote, country and metropolitan schools in the North Metropolitan West Coast region can access services face to face or via Webex for professional learning and teacher/school consults.

While all schools requesting a service will be allocated a consultant, to manage the workload in the context of the number of schools requesting new or ongoing support, we prioritise schools (in terms of time allocation) on the following basis:

Priority 1: Schools that have a focus on building in-school specialised leadership capacity and sharing that knowledge focusing on oral language, the links to literacy and the impact of disorder or disadvantage.

Priority 2: Schools looking for services without a focus on leadership development. These may be schools in their first year of accessing services or ongoing schools who may require less input.

To contact the Associate Principal or consultant please use the following email address.

WestCoast.LDC.OutreachTeam@education.wa.edu.au

...building up children's oral language skills (receptively and expressively) and later their reading, writing, and spelling skills, is akin to building a house, in the sense that both require strong foundations, and careful attention to structural integrity and inter-connectedness of component parts. Pamela Snow

Service Provision

Service	Overview
School Based Professional Learning	<i>This service is available to schools within the West Coast North Metropolitan, Midwest and Gascoyne districts. Professional learning can be provided across a variety of areas of instruction, data assessment analysis in oral language and early literacy. Workshops can be tailored to address school priorities and areas of concern.</i>
Teacher Consults/planning Data analysis, in class support	<i>This service is for teachers (individual or teams) who would like support in up-skilling in the areas of oral language and/or early literacy, using data to drive goal setting and in class support.</i>
Classroom observations and feedback	<i>This service is available for teachers or EAs to receive feedback or be supported in reflection around their implementation of language/literacy intervention in the class.</i>
Ex LDC Student Consults	<i>This service is available for teachers of students who have exited LDC to gain support in strategies that best suit these students' language/literacy needs.</i>
District Professional Learning	<i>See following pages for topic samples run at our Outreach Centre.</i>
Network Level Support	<i>Professional learning is available to all school networks within our region for teachers and education assistants.</i>
Webex/Online Professional Learning	<i>This service is available for teachers/admin in remote and metropolitan schools for either individual, team or whole school PL or consults. Select online courses can also be accessed through our school YouTube channel.</i>
Parent Workshops	<p><i>Workshops can be requested on the following topics.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• What is DLD?</i> <i>• The impact of oral language skills on early literacy outcomes.</i> <i>• When should I refer my child to allied health agencies?</i>
Early Career Teachers	<i>Professional learning specifically targeting bridging the gap between what is taught at university and what teachers need to know when they start their career. This is run during the July school holidays over 2 half days.</i>
Allied Agencies	<i>This professional learning is available to school health nurses and psychologists. 'What is DLD?' and its impact academically and socially. This can be run at our centre and/or external conferences, either face to face or online.</i>

Professional Learning

KEY LANGUAGE LEADERSHIP

This series focuses on developing the capacity of classroom teachers, Principals, Deputy Principals, Literacy Coaches, Literacy Leaders, SAER Coordinators and Curriculum Leaders, to improve the language/literacy outcomes of students in their schools with a focus on students at language risk. Participants learn to assess and analyse language and are provided with practical strategies for addressing identified needs.

The Key Language Leadership Program runs over **six days** spread throughout the year. The series has a strong action learning component, so there is an expectation that participants will undertake some additional reading and trial some of the assessments and activities between sessions. The training also encourages participants to reflect on their teaching practice, develop their leadership and mentoring skills and establish networks. Opportunities to identify, plan and report on school-based initiatives will be provided throughout the series, helping to develop the leadership skills of the participant.

The training includes the following oral language modules:

- Introduction to Change Management in Schools, oral Language & comprehension
- Literature Based Units introduction & Narrative Macrostructure analysis & teaching
- Narrative Microstructure Analysis and Grammar Instruction
- Semantics, Vocabulary, LBU Wrap Up, Intro to phonological and phonemic awareness
- Structured Synthetic Phonics & the Early Code
- Extended Code & Morphology; Literacy Assessments; End of course wrap up.

Each of the modules includes theory, strategies and resources. Participants are provided with recommended assessments and learn how to analyse and set SMART goals using the data. There are opportunities to reflect on current practice and link planning for teaching and learning programs to suit diverse learning needs, including ideas for classroom organisation. Participants receive significant resources in print and on a usb.

For continued mentoring and learning for Key Language Leaders, it is recommended that schools have a signed service agreement with the Outreach Service to access ongoing support.

Cost 2025: \$495 per participant

Registration via PLIS



Professional Learning

The District General Series is delivered at our Outreach office, rear of East Hamersley Primary School. Sessions can be attended by any teacher or education assistant. These sessions aim to give participants an overview of language and an introduction to key language areas. The cost of each session varies and covers the cost of food, printing, resources and usb (if required). All content is aligned with the WA Curriculum, Kindergarten Curriculum Guidelines and recent advances in research. All sessions are available at a district, school or network level.

The following table is only a **sample** of Professional Learning presented. **Other topics** include **Semantics (vocabulary) instruction, Phonological Awareness and Phonics.**

Topic	Overview
Articulation	<i>Aims to build participants' knowledge of typical articulation development in young students, including possible areas of difficulty. Strategies and activities to support children with non-typical articulation are provided. When: 3.30 - 5.30 pm</i>
What is DLD?	<i>Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) affects approximately two children in the average classroom (7% of children), and difficulties persist throughout a child's school life and beyond. Participants will learn about the importance of oral language as the foundation for learning, oral language difficulties (including DLD) and how to identify and support your students in the classroom. When: 3.30 - 5.30 pm</i>
Supporting students with DLD	<i>Participants must attend the What is DLD? session prior to enrolling in this PL. This session focuses on supporting students with DLD, you will learn about effective strategies to support students with oral language difficulties and how to integrate high-quality language teaching in your classroom. When: 12.30 - 5.00 pm</i>
Grammar (syntax)	<i>The grammar and syntax PL is a 3-part series offering teachers an insight into the development of both oral and written grammar. It is a practical session where teachers have an opportunity to plan using a text of their choice. When: 3.45 - 5.45 pm</i>
WCLDC Transition to Mainstream	<i>Mainstream teachers/schools that have exited WCLDC students are invited to training with the aim to support their understanding of students with developmental language disorder (DLD) within the classroom. Training also includes explanations of programs, assessment and reporting used within the WCLDC in the areas of language and early literacy. When: 8.30 - 3.30pm</i>
Boosting Language with Book Sharing (3 part series)	<i>Participants will gain an understanding of effective book sharing strategies and engage in step-by-step action learning to implement these strategies. Each participant can receive individualised feedback from a speech pathologist to support their action learning, directly enhancing the impact on students' language development. When: sessions run fortnightly 3.30- 4.45pm</i>

Please note not all sessions run every year.

Professional Learning can be requested for staff meetings, POLT meetings, school development days or parent groups. These sessions can be face to face or online.



Kindergarten Assessment Tool (KAT)

This training is designed for teachers who have a role in Kindergarten/ECE and we encourage administrators, literacy and/or junior primary curriculum leaders to attend for administrative data collection.

The KAT is a criterion referenced assessment tool designed to ensure oral language development is maximised. The purpose is to provide teachers with baseline data in oral language and emergent literacy skills of Kindy students.

The KAT is aligned with the Service's Kindy Achievement Standard Statements which have been back-mapped from The West Australian Curriculum Pre-Primary Achievement Standard Statements.

The training includes:

- History & purpose of the test
- Theory of oral language and links to literacy
- General Administration
- Guidelines, Assessment Descriptors and Developmental Milestones
- Diagnostic and supporting evidence for referrals
- Subtest scoring using teacher judgement with developmental checklists and Sample Answer Documents
- Analysing and profiling data using Class Summary Sheets
- Goal setting

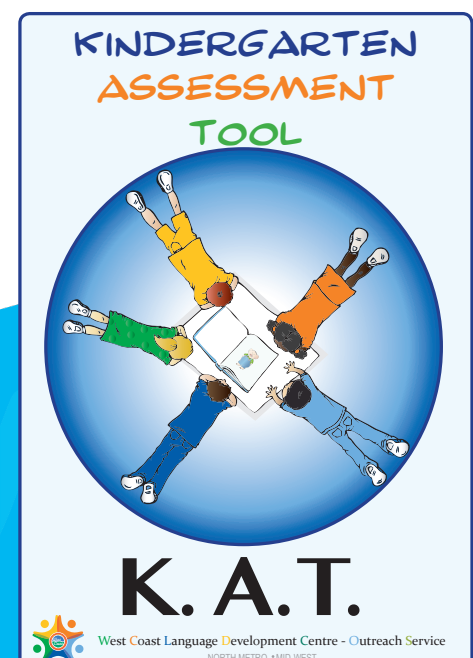
Subtests unpacked:

- Oral Comprehension (Blank Screen),
- Semantics (Vocabulary), Locational
- Relationships (Prepositions), Social / Emotional Development, Concepts of
- Print & Reading, Play & Social Skills,
- Narrative (Joint Action Routine & Retell),
- Phonological Awareness
- Grammar (Syntax)

The training is run over one full day either face to face or via Webex.

Cost 2025: \$75 per participant + \$220 KAT Assessment Tool

Registration via PLIS





Professional Learning Sessions 2025: Dates for your Diary

EVENT	PL Date	Time	Registration Closing Date
Language Leadership Series – North Metropolitan <i>Building Oral Comp & Links to Early Literacy</i> <i>PA, Early Literacy & Morphology</i> <i>Vocabulary & Semantics</i> <i>Narrative Macrostructure</i> <i>Narrative Microstructure (Grammar & Syntax)</i> <i>LBU & Presentations</i>	25 March 6 May 17 June 29 July 9 September 21 October	8.30 – 3.45pm	21 March
District Series			
Rainbow Assessment Tool (RAT) Phonological and Phonemic Awareness Assessment Education Department Endorsed	Term 2 Cancelled	3.45 - 5.45pm	
PA to Phonics What's next after RAT-R assessment? <i>Defines phonological awareness, phonemic awareness and synthetic phonics. Teachers are supported to develop their own early literacy skills and are provided with many practical strategies and assessment for use in the classroom.</i>	Term 2 Cancelled	3.45 - 5.45pm	
Developmental Language Disorder Series (2 sessions) What is DLD? Supporting students with DLD	22 May (WebEx) Cancelled	3.45 - 5.45pm 12.30 - 5.00pm	16 May 5 June
Developmental Language Disorder: 1 in 14 Children <i>Provides a brief introduction to Developmental Language Disorder, signs to look for in the classroom, and ideas of how to support students with DLD.</i>	16 October (WebEx)	3.30 – 4.00pm	10 October
Articulation and Phonology <i>Looking at typical development for speech sound production in young students. Possible areas of difficulty; and possible strategies to support children with speech difficulties.</i>	4 August 1 September	3.45 - 5.45pm	30 July 22 August
Boosting Language with Book Sharing <i>Effective Strategies for Teachers</i>	24 July 7 August 4 September	3.30 – 4.30pm	18 July
Grammar (syntax) – How oral syntax competency impacts on literacy outcomes.	12 May 26 May 9 June	3.45 - 5.45pm	8 May
Vocabulary <i>Explicit Instruction for the Classroom</i>	19 June	3.45 - 5.45pm	13 June
WCLDC Transition to Mainstream	26 February	8.30 - 3.00pm	19 February
Resource Series			
Kindergarten Assessment Tool (KAT)	14 March 16 May 23 May (WebEx) 28 November	8:30 - 3:30pm	7 March 9 May 16 May 21 November
Literature Based Unit – The Big 6 <i>Looks at the importance of literature and stories in building language and literacy skills; including, vocabulary, grammar, phonological awareness, narrative and writing in an integrated way. Participants will use a text to produce their own literature based unit.</i>	27 February 11 September	8.30 - 3.30pm	21 February 5 September
Graduate Teacher Series			
Newly graduated teachers will learn about the foundations of oral language and early literacy. The critical aspects underpinning their teaching, this series will be informative and practical. The two half-days will be held in the school holidays.	15 & 16 July	9 - 1.00pm	27 June



Our office is located at our East Hamersley LDC site.
(rear of East Hamersley Primary School)

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