

## Fee Information - 2025

This information is intended as a guide only. Playful Connections is committed to making Speech Pathology support accessible for a wide range of families and supports outside of what is listed below may be available depending on circumstance – please contact us if you have any questions.

All fees are charged according to hourly rates below, as guided by current NDIS pricing structure (2024-2025). We reserve the right to change our fees according to the NDIS recommended schedule.

Unfortunately, in the past 5 years, the NDIS price cap for therapeutic supports has remained the same, despite the rising cost of living and inflation. This stagnant pricing effectively reduces the value of payments over time, making it increasingly challenging for service providers to maintain the same quality and sustainability of care. This is a challenge for service providers across our whole industry, and the biggest risk is that more and more services will close, leaving less choice and less support for clients.

### Initial Appointment, One-off Consults and Assessments

Our pricing for these services is higher than the NDIS price limits, to ensure that we can offer a sustainable, quality service for you and others.

For clients without NDIS, you are able to claim the discounted rate through Private Health or Medicare (if you have a valid GP or paediatrician care plan referral).

Initial Phone Consultation (10 mins)	No charge
Standard rate	\$230/hour

Playful Connections does not charge a set fee for assessments – each child is different and assessment length and requirements will vary according to need. Please note that all assessments will include one of the following indirect supports, charged at the same hourly rate as detailed above:

- Short assessment summary and planning recommendations – 30 mins
- Assessment summary and home program – 60-90 mins
- Detailed assessment report for use by NDIS/education – 60-120 mins

*For example purposes only:*

- *Neurodiversity consult may involve 60 mins conversation time and 30 mins written follow up - 90 mins in total and therefore cost \$345 (before discounts are applied)*
- *an initial early language consultation with accompanying home program may involve 90- 120 mins of total time (session time + program) and therefore cost \$345- \$460 (before discounts are applied)*

## Therapy – Direct and Indirect support

Therapy sessions range from 30-60 minutes depending on client need

Our pricing for therapy services remains within the NDIS price limits in attempt to ensure affordability and access to much needed supports. If you are Plan-Managed, your Plan Manager will be able to claim the full session cost from your NDIS funding.

Standard rate	193.99/hour
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### Indirect Supports

**All supports detailed below are charged at the hourly rate listed above**

- Report writing (summary, transition) – frequency of reports will be determined in conjunction with families
- Clinician/Caregiver Therapy Management Plan meeting to determine specific goals
- Extended discussions via phone or email (15 minutes or longer) with other service providers involved in your care (e.g. other allied health providers, educators, doctors)
- Making resources required for home based activities
- Travel time – this will be split between clients where applicable

As well as the above, all sessions may have direct and in-direct supports built in to allocated time (i.e. a one hour session includes 45 mins direct client contact and 15 mins for planning, documentation and follow up).

In accepting services through Playful Connections, you are providing initial, one-off consent that indirect supports will be undertaken and charged as needed. As these are not always be able to be discussed prior to occurring, completing a service agreement with Playful Connections is viewed as pre-authorisation for these supports to be charged.

## Funding Options

### National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

Playful Connections Speech Pathology is a provider of government funded disability support for National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participants who are Plan Managed or Self-Managed. Dependent on client need, travel fees may apply and will be discussed with you prior to booking.

### Medicare Plans

A Chronic Disease Management (CDM) Plan is a GP managed plan that provides a Medicare rebate for allied health services. A CDM Plan provides a maximum of 5 total rebates per calendar year. Full payment for services is requested. A receipt will then be issued promptly which can be lodged with Medicare in order to receive your rebate.

### Private Health Insurance

Playful Connections Speech Pathology is registered with Private Health Insurers. As all covers differ, we ask you to contact your Insurance Company to enquire about the level of cover you have for speech pathology.