

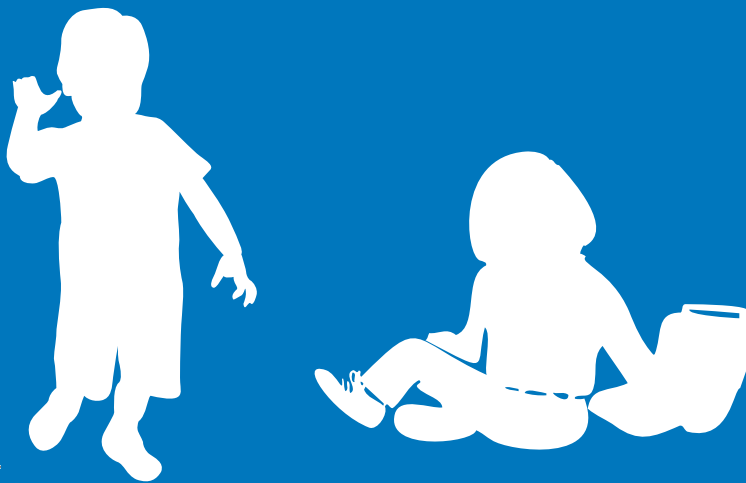
Can the Clinic help my child?

Most children go through fussy phases. But, if mealtimes are an ongoing cause of stress your child may have a feeding problem. Feeding therapy can help if your child:

- Eats less than 20 different types of food
- Has meltdowns over new foods or changes to favourite foods
- Completely refuses food categories or textures

The Infant and Child Feeding Clinic provides feeding therapy for:

- Fussy eaters
- Breast and bottle feeding problems
- Difficulty transitioning to solids
- Feeding PEGS
- Nasogastric tubes
- Reflux (GORD)
- Complex Medical Problems
- Chronic constipation
- Autism
- Down Syndrome



Funding

Funding for feeding therapy may be accessible through:

- Private health insurance funds
- Medicare
- Helping children with Autism
- Better Start for Children with a Disability Initiative

To access the clinic through Medicare you need a specific referral from your GP or paediatrician.

Contact Us

For more information or to book an assessment contact Kids Play Occupational Therapy or SpeechNet Speech Pathology.

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Infant and Child Feeding Clinic

Are mealtimes stressful?

Worried about your child's diet?

Struggling to introduce new foods?

Difficulties breast or bottle feeding?



Make mealtimes enjoyable

Is dinner time a regular nightmare that drives you to tears? Fed up being told it's a 'phase', bouncing around professionals, and seeking help on forums? The frustrations of caring for a child with feeding difficulties can push many parents to their breaking point.

The Infant and Child Feeding Clinic can make mealtimes enjoyable again. We help your child build eating skills and gain the confidence to explore new foods.

The Clinic offers a safe environment and specialist support to help your child:

- Learn the routine of participating in mealtimes
- Explore food in fun and new ways
- Engage with a broader range of foods and expand what they eat
- Build eating and chewing skills

The Clinic is one of only a handful in Australia offering specialist expertise in feeding therapy. It is a joint service run by Kids Play Occupational Therapy and SpeechNet Speech Pathology.



Explore food in fun, new ways

At the Infant and Child Feeding Clinic we use a proven step by step approach to slowly introduce new foods and desensitise 'problem' foods and textures. Your child will be encouraged to experience foods using all of their senses. This builds their confidence and reduces stress as they learn about new foods.

Why is our approach so successful?

Feeding is a complicated task involving the coordination of muscles, input from senses (touch, taste, sight, smell, hearing), and an emotional response to the food and environment. Feeding difficulties might be related to any, or all, of these areas. No single specialist will have all the answers.

The Infant and Child Feeding Clinic is successful because we identify all the issues and provide an effective team of supporting specialists. We have Occupational Therapists (OTs), Speech Pathologists, Physiotherapist and Psychologist onsite and work closely with dietitians, psychologists, paediatricians, GPs and gastroenterologists.

How are our therapists different?

The team has advanced training in the very successful Sequential Oral Sensory (SOS) approach to feeding problems. Our therapists also draw on a range of proven techniques to suit each child's needs. We incorporate oro-motor skill development, positive mealtime management and a strengths-based approach into our therapy sessions.

