

ONLINE: Assessment and Treatment of Late Talking in Toddlers
By Professor Nat Munro and Dr Tai-Ying Lee

This workshop will run across 2 “live” ONLINE sessions from 11.00am-2.30pm NZDT
Session 1 – Monday 17th November 2025
Session 2 – Thursday 20th November 2025

The session will be “LIVE” and will not be recorded at the request of the presenters.

Intended Participants

This 7-hr online Continuing Professional Development (CPD) event is intended for Speech-Language Therapists/Speech Pathologists working in early intervention with a clinical focus on language intervention. Assessment and treatment principles will focus on the interface between language and phonology development in toddlers and direct caregiver training/coaching principles to support effective implement of the Vocabulary Acquisition and Usage for Late Talkers (VAULT) protocol.

Registration and Online Learning Details

Single registration cost is for each individual, not per site. Zoom will be used to deliver the training with “meeting room” details emailed to participants prior to the event. You will need to download Zoom software to your computer. A webcam and inbuilt microphone on your computer is also preferable so you can fully participate.

Readings and Resources

Recommended readings and resources will be shared 1-2 weeks before the event.

Workshop Content

Toddlers who have significantly smaller expressive vocabularies than their peers with typical development are known as late talkers. Late talkers have no frank neurological impairments, sensory or motor deficits (e.g., hearing loss), or other diagnoses (e.g., autism spectrum disorder) that might otherwise account for their language deficits. Some late talkers show persistent language difficulties and are later diagnosed with Developmental Language Disorder (DLD), while others develop language skills that fall in the average range but remain below the skills of peers with typical early language development. Regardless, it is important to attend to late talkers' communication needs as late onset of talking and slower rate of word learning are early risk factors for lifelong problems with language, both oral and written. Session 1 will provide clinicians with evidence-based recommendations for assessment of language and phonology in toddlers. Session 2 will focus on effective implementation of VAULT treatment (Alt, et al. (2014). Strategies to support parent education and parent coaching will also be discussed to ensure VAULT treatment is implemented to fidelity in the clinical setting and in the home environment.

Reference:

Alt M, Meyers C, Oglivie T, Nicholas K, Arizmendi G. *Cross-situational statistically based word learning intervention for late-talking toddlers*. J Commun Disord. 2014 Nov-Dec;52:207-20. doi: 10.1016/j.jcomdis.2014.07.002. Epub 2014 Aug 7. PMID: 25155254; PMCID: PMC4476298.

Learning Objectives

- Evidence-based assessment of language and phonological skills in toddlers with a focus on late talking toddlers
- Understanding of Vocabulary Acquisition and Usage for Late Talkers (VAULT) intervention approach
- Implementation of VAULT for late talkers with consideration of late talkers with phonological difficulties and late talkers with linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Strategies to support parents education in VAULT intervention approach

About Professor Nat Munro and Dr Tai-Ying Lee



Dr. Natalie (Nat) Munro is a Professor of Speech Pathology at Southern Cross University's Faculty of Health. A certified practicing speech-language pathologist since 1996, she has extensive experience in academic, clinical, and educational settings, including NSW Health and various schools. She completed her PhD at The University of Sydney in 2008, focusing on word-learning in children with language disorders. Her research covers speech and language development from toddlerhood to adolescence, collaborating with experts in speech pathology, occupational therapy, psychology, community pediatrics, education, and linguistics. With over \$5 million in grant funding and more than 75 refereed publications, Nat is recognized for her significant contributions to the field.



Dr. Tai-Ying Lee has a diverse background in academic and clinical settings from her experiences across New Zealand, Australia, and Hong Kong. Her clinical expertise is focused on working with children and families from diverse populations, particularly in speech sound disorders, and language disorders. Her experiences have shaped her research focus on bilingual intervention implementation, and early bilingual language development. Her current research projects are on the implementation of Vocabulary Acquisition and Usage for Late Talkers (VAULT) approach for bilingual populations, the impact of linguistic distance and phonological neighbourhood density on early bilingual language development, bilingual fluency, and the use of new technologies in intervention.

Registration Fees

Registration fees include Humanitix's online payment processing fee. **Early Bird** (10% discount) tickets are available until 11.55pm 3rd October of 2025. On the 4th of October 2025, **Full Rate** tickets prices become activated and remain available until the event is "sold out".

Registration Type	Workshop Fee	Humanitix Fee + GST	Total Fee
Early Bird	\$297.00	\$17.64	\$314.64
Full Rate	\$330.00	\$19.54	\$349.54

To register, please go to www.skillbuildersslt.com/training and click on the registration link [here](#)



Continuing Professional Development

Terms and Conditions

Registration – Registrations are open until 1 week prior to the event date or until each ticket type is 'sold out'. The workshop will only run if a minimum of 16 registrants are met. Registration fees includes PDF handouts and a certificate of attendance when registrants attend both modules.

Cancellation Policy - Cancellations must be sent in writing to Skill Builders Speech Language Therapy. If the registrant cancels or is a non-attendee at the event: 100% of the registration fee refunded if cancellation occurs up to 7 days prior to the event; no refund will be given if cancellation occurs within 7 days before the event or for non-attendance on the day(s). 100% of the registration fee will be refunded if the event is cancelled. Skill Builders bears no responsibility for any costs incurred or loss of income. **For online learning, refunds will not be provided to registrants who are unable to attend subsequent sessions. Transfer of registration to a colleague after session 1 will not be allowed. Please only register if you can attend both sessions.**

Recording/Filming/Photography Not Permitted by Registrants: Registrants are NOT permitted to record any or part of this event in any format including audio recording, video recording, or through use of mobile devices for filming or photography.

Technology/Trouble Shooting: Skill Builders bears no responsibility for technological difficulties experienced by participants due to slow internet connections. Trouble shooting assistance will be limited during sessions and participants are encouraged to familiarise themselves with Zoom.