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OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS PHYSIOTHERAPISTS EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGISTS ACCESSIBLE GYM REHABILITATION CONSULTANTS

1300 368 141



HEAD OFFICE

Ground Floor 246 Glen Osmond Road, **FULLARTON SA 5063**

REGIONAL OFFICE 26 Second Street,

NURIOOTPA SA 5355

CONTACT US VIA EMAIL

office@mpot.com.au info@accessfitness.com.au

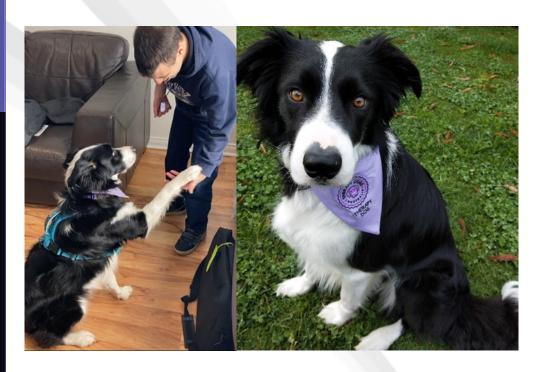


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ANIMAL-ASSISTED THERAPY

Animal-Assisted Therapy is a vibrant and motivating delivery of speech pathology services, currently offered by our Speech Pathologist Phoebe Amos, alongside her animal-assistant, Cooper. Cooper is a border collie who has been certified as a therapy dog through Therapy Dogs Australia and takes part in enhancing the therapeutic experience.

Animals ask no questions, place no expectation to perform and provide unconditional love



What is Animal Assisted Therapy?

Animal-Assisted Therapy is a goal-directed intervention which is rapidly growing in popularity within the health and medical sector.

The reason for this is the growing interest in the impact on Human-Animal bond within our everyday lives. The relationships between humans and animals is a vibrant, often mutually rewarding and comforting experience. Animals ask no questions, make no verbal demands, place no expectation to perform and provide unconditional love. Animal-Assisted Therapy relies on this unique bond, providing a warm, stress-free environment for individuals to communicate and interact.

- SERVICES CAN BE ACCESSED BY -

NDIS Participants | Privately Insured Clients | GP Plans | DVA Clients (Gold and White Card Holders) Clients with Third Party / Compensable Claims - including Workplace Injury, Motor Vehicle Accident, Income Protection / Disability & Public Liability























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During the session, Phoebe will continue to work towards your communication and/or swallowing goals, however having Cooper in the room will add a unique dimension to the session.

Research indicates the presence of a therapy dog within Speech Pathology sessions can work to support the following:

- Enhance motivation towards therapy
- Increase communication confidence
- Vocabulary building/descriptive language development
- Build use/understanding of cause/effect language ('I don't want/I do want', 'come', 'stay', 'sit')
- Support shared interactions (including person-person, person-dog)
- Improve speech clarity
- Build awareness of social norms/hierarchies
- Improve social skills
- Awareness of verbal and non-verbal cues
- Support reading skills/confidence

Who will benefit from Animal-Assisted Therapy?

Many people present with **speech, language or social communication difficulties** and may benefit from Animal-Assisted Therapy during their Speech Pathology sessions.

These difficulties can be as a result from (but are not limited to) the following:

Intellectual Disability

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
Acquired Brain Injury (ABI)
Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

Stroke

A Speech Pathologist can assess the level of your skills and provide support to strengthen areas of need:

- Speech clarity support
- Expressive & receptive language development
- Alternative augmentative communication needs (AAC)
- Neurological and functional voice disorder rehabilitation
- Communication partner training
- Social skills development
- Literacy training

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