Allied Health





Expert team around you

At NextSense, we have a dedicated team of allied health professionals working with children and adults who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind or have low vision.



Occupational therapy



Orthoptic services



Physiotherapy



Psychology



Speech therapy



Occupational therapy



Orthoptic services



Our expert team of occupational therapists can work with you or your child to achieve increased independence and participation goals. Here are some things we can help with:

- Everyday skills such as cutlery use, dressing, bathing, drinking from a cup, combing hair, accessing technology, and preparing meals.
- Play skills such as playing with others, using toys, giving sport a go, catching balls, climbing, balancing, and construction.
- Hand skills such as picking up small things, stacking blocks, drawing, handwriting, using scissors, and pre-braille skills.
- Posture and movement such as positioning support for seating, bedding, travel, bathing and toileting.
- Coping with change such as a break in routine in sensory environments.
- Getting around such as wheelchair use and car travel.

NextSense orthoptists provide support for children and adults with a disability or additional needs who may have vision loss. Our team can offer information about you or your child's level of vision—including optimising vision for daily activities. The team are also experienced working with people who are non-verbal, who may use alternative modes of communication, and have cognitive or physical impairments.

Here's a few things NextSense orthoptists can help with:

- Functional vision assessments tailored to age and developmental level.
- Vision screening.
- Support with low vision aids, and computer technology assessments and training.
- Environmental assessments—in the home, the classroom, the workplace or elsewhere.
- Information and support for families of people who are blind or have low vision, and those close to them—including teachers and colleagues.
- Provide comprehensive reports with strategies according to goals.



Physiotherapy



Psychology



Our expert team of physiotherapists can work with you or your child to develop confidence with physical movement, coordination, agility, and balance. NextSense physiotherapists can work on the following skills:

- posture
- coordination
- aquatic physiotherapy
- agility and balance
- gross motor skills
- mobility
- accessing recreational and physical activities.
- equipment needs
- sitting and walking, when these milestones are delayed.
- activities in the home, school or community.

Our expert team of psychologists start with you—and your goals. Based on the goals, individual psychology sessions are available, which can help in the following areas for children and adults with hearing or vision loss:

- Specialised assessments and specific recommendations.
- Supporting transitions, including from primary school to high school.
- Working with the people that support you or your child, including teachers and therapists.
- Identification of any factors impacting on learning and communication.
- Counselling and therapy intervention to support children and families when they need it most.





Speech therapy



Our expert team of speech pathologists can help you or your child to redefine what's possible. Here's just a few focus areas:

- communication for toddlers and infants
- · understanding instructions
- speech clarity
- · sentence building
- conversation and social participation
- preschool and classroom skills
- augmentative and alternative communication (AAC).





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Makuei's speech pathologist helped him transition to school, working closely with his family and teachers to develop speech and language. Now, Makuei is thriving at NextSense School Spoken Language Program.

Why choose NextSense for your allied health

- We work towards best practice frameworks, which means you or your child is receiving the best possible support.
- We're dedicated to working closely with you or your child, as well as families, teachers and other healthcare professionals to ensure development of skills across different environments.
- You'll have the flexibility to choose where and when sessions take place. From the home to an educational setting; a workplace to a program location; or at one of many centres around Australia.
- We work toward achieving you or your child's NDIS goals—improving independence, functional skills and participation—or whatever they are.
- We're a team. That means the support you receive from our NextSense allied health professionals is shared with the other NextSense experts who support you—ensuring that together we create an individual program of care that meets your unique needs.

The NextSense difference





We're for everyone, right across Australia.

No matter your age, your needs, or where you live, we reach the people who need us.



Australia's largest cochlear implant program.

We provide access to leading professionals and ongoing care for thousands of Australians.



Our dedicated people.

Our wide range of experts work holistically to create a program of care that's unique to you.



Not-for-profit service.

That means we can focus on your needs.



Registered NDIS provider.

We partner with you on your NDIS journey.



Redefining what's possible

NextSense is a not-for-profit that provides dedicated, innovative, and customised services aimed at breaking down barriers for children, adults and families of people with hearing or vision loss.

We rely on a generous network of support—from donors to volunteers. To find out more or get involved, go to nextsense.org.au



Take the next step





We'll connect you with an experienced team member to discuss your needs.

NextSense is the registered business name of Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children (ABN 53 443 272 865)