

THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF SPEECH THERAPISTS

香港言語治療師協會

HKAST Annual Report 2022-2023

MESSAGE FROM CHAIRPERSON



Lam Jody Pui Yee Chairperson, HKAST 2022-2023

The Hong Kong Association of Speech Therapists has made remarkable progress in our mission to support and promote the field of speech therapy. As the chairperson of HKAST, I am honored to work alongside a dedicated committee and contribute to the growth of our community.

I am excited to announce that HKAST Limited was incorporated on August 3, 2022. This marks a significant milestone for our association as we transition to a new structure that will enhance our ability to serve our members and the community. As we move forward, the HKAST society will soon be dissolved, paving the way for a more streamlined and effective organization.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation to our honorary advisors, executive committee, members, and community partners. Your unwavering support has been instrumental in establishing HKAST as a dynamic organization focused on professional development and public awareness of speech therapy. A special thank you goes to my fellow committee members, both current and former, for their tireless commitment and invaluable contributions.

In response to the evolving needs of our members, we have hosted a variety of events and provided exclusive benefits. Members had access to complimentary online professional development courses, and we initiated impactful public education campaigns through collaborative efforts. Our mentorship program has also been enhanced to foster stronger connections among members.

As we reflect on our journey, it is clear that the speech therapy profession in Hong Kong has evolved significantly. I commend each speech therapist for their dedication and hard work. Looking ahead, we are committed to driving innovation and excellence in our field. Together, let's continue to push boundaries and achieve new heights for HKAST and the profession as a whole. Thank you all for your engagement and support as we move forward into a brighter future!

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BOARD OF COMMITTEE 2022-2023

CHAIRPERSON MS. JODY LAM

VICE CHAIRPERSON (PA) MS. ZOE LEE

VICE CHAIRPERSON (PD) MS. KAREN KEI

SECRETARY (OPERATIONS) MS. DION NG

SECRETARY (COMMUNICATIONS) MR. LONGSON NG

TREASURER MS. RHONDA CHENG

COMMITTEE MEMBERS MS. BONITA YAU

MS. CHRISTINE TSE

MS. HARMONY CHOI

MS. SISLEY LEUNG

MS. STEPHANIE CHAN

MS. TRISTA I I

MS. TWINKLE YEUNG

HONORARY ADVISORS PROF. KATHY LEE

DR. MAN TAK LEUNG

DR. JANET NG

MR. DANNY AU

MR. JOSHUA LAI

HONORARY AUDITOR MR. BERNARD WU, CPA

HONORARY LEGAL ADVISOR MS. MICHELLE LIU

INCORPORATION OF HKAST LIMITED



THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF SPEECH THERAPISTS LIMITED 香港言語治療師協會有限公司

The Hong Kong Association of Speech Therapists Limited was incorporated in Hong Kong under the Companies Ordinance (Chapter 622 of the Laws of Hong Kong) on the 3rd day of August 2022.

The Hong Kong Association of Speech Therapists was established in 1981 as a society registered by the Licensing Office of Hong Kong Police. It was governed under Societies Ordinance (Cap 151). However, as a society, liability is shared among Board of Committee and members. It is also mentioned in the Constitution (item 12) that "If the Association incurs liabilities, the sum of which exceeds the funds at the disposal of the Committee, it shall be the responsibility of all full members to meet the excess, in equal shares." In contrast, in limited companies, liability of members is limited.

Therefore, in the HKAST AGM dated 25th September 2015, the resolution for incorporation of HKAST had been proposed and was passed, in order to start the plan of conversion of HKAST from society into limited company. In the AGM dated 24th September 2021, the proposal for the elected 2021-22 Board of Committee to be the first Board of Directors of HKAST Limited was passed. On 3rd August 2022, The Hong Kong Association of Speech Therapists Limited was incorporated in Hong Kong under the Companies Ordinance (Chapter 622 of the Laws of Hong Kong) and replaced the society of HKAST. The Board of Committee 2021-2022 was the first Board of Directors of the HKAST Limited. This marks a significant milestone for our association as we transition to a new structure that will enhance our ability to serve our members and the community. As we move forward, the HKAST society will soon be dissolved, paving the way for a more streamlined and effective organization.

Diagnostic Terminology For Child Language

Disorders in Chinese

In June 2020, a special interest group on Terminology for Child Language Disorders (TCLD) was formed. The TCLD group was led by a core team including Dr. Anita Wong from the University of Hong Kong, Mr. Ashley Ng from the Child Assessment Service, Department of Health, Ms. Joanna Cheung from the Speech Therapy Service Section, Education Bureau, and Ms. Jody Lam from the Hong Kong Association of Speech Therapists. The TCLD group included members from the four speech-language therapy training programs, SLTs working for major service providers and private practice SLTs in Hong Kong. After literature review and rounds of discussion, the TCLD group summarised recommendations on the diagnostic terms to be used for child speech, language and communication disorders. In order to promote professional development among speech therapists and raise public awareness, HKAST collaborated with the TCLD group to organise a series of training workshops and webinars regularly. An online sharing session was held in March 2023 for colleagues to reflect on the use of the terminology framework in our practice, identify challenges and discuss possible solutions as a professional community.



We sincerely appreciate the contributions and insights from all our speakers, including:

Dr. Anita Wong, the University of Sydney

Mr. Ashley Ng, CAS, Department of Health

Prof. Valerie Pereira, CUHK

Ms. Peggy Kan, CUHK

Mr. Archie Cheng, ENT Laser

Ms. Cora Lee, ENT Laser

Dr. Ka-ming Lau, HKSKH Education Services

Ms. Pensy Cheung, PLK Child Care Services

We are deeply grateful for the valuable insights!

Expert Seminar/Webinar Series



Diagnosis and treatment for Dyscalculia

Speaker: Dr. Ilse Smits

25 November 2022

Conducting Adult Clinical
Swallowing Examinations Via
Telepractice

Speaker: Dr. Clare Burns

7 February 2023



Expert Webinar Series



Dialogic Reading for Preschoolers with ASD

Speaker: Dr. Kathy Shum

22 February 2023

Selective Mutism As A
Presentation In The Autism
Spectrum: Assessment And
Differential Diagnosis

Speaker: Ms. Abigail Mance

16 May 2023



Allied Health Series



Time: 07:30 - 9:00pm

Speaker: Ms Lee Kin Yiu, Olivia
Online platform: Zoom

Medium: English

Free and exclusive for all HKAST members!

Registration deadline: 27th May, 2023

Scan the QR code below to register:



For enquiries, please contact us at paespeechtherapy,org.hk or go to our we www.speechtherapy.org.hk.

Join us as HKAST member to enroll in our webinars! Understanding and Supporting Students With Dyslexia

Speaker: Ms. Lee Kin Yiu, Olivia Special Education Teacher

29 May 2023

Enhance Your Skills: Workshop on Patient Transfer Skills and Breakaway Techniques

Speaker: Mr.Simon Tse Registered Physiotherapist

19 August 2023



Summary of Professional Development Events

| Nov 2022 | Diagnosis and treatment for Dyscalculia |
|----------|--|
| Feb 2023 | Conducting Adult Clinical Swallowing Examinations Via Telepractice |
| Feb 2023 | Dialogic Reading for Preschoolers with ASD |
| Mar 2023 | Use of the Terminology Framework for Child Language Disorders Across Settings |
| May 2023 | Selective Mutism As A Presentation In The Autism Spectrum: Assessment And Differential Diagnosis |
| May 2023 | Understanding and Supporting Students With Dyslexia |
| Aug 2023 | Enhance Your Skills: Workshop on Patient Transfer Skills and Breakaway Techniques |

Throughout the year 2022-2023, we conducted a series of professional development events aimed at advancing the expertise and competencies of our members. We wish to express our sincere appreciation to all the speakers for their invaluable insights and commitment to these initiatives. Additionally, we extend our gratitude to our members for their active participation. We are dedicated to organizing an expanded array of impactful events in the forthcoming year to further support your professional growth.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

Movie Screening

Local ASD documentary: 媽媽,我有一條了不起的神經





This year, we organized a public awareness event centered around the screening of the local documentary "媽媽,我有一條了不起的神經," which highlights the experiences of individuals within the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) community. In our commitment to inclusivity, we offered complimentary tickets to speech therapists, individuals with special educational needs (SEN) and their families. The event was further enhanced by the participation of the film's director and one of the featured individuals, who engaged in a post-screening discussion. This dialogue provided valuable insights into the challenges and achievements of the ASD population, fostering greater understanding and awareness within the community..

PUBLIC AWARENESS

Educational Posters

HKAST has its own Facebook page and Instagram. Our committee had created a series of educational posters, which were posted on Facebook, Instagram and our website regularly. In order to let the general public have a better understanding about speech therapy, we issued a series of poster for public education on the roles and duties of speech therapists.

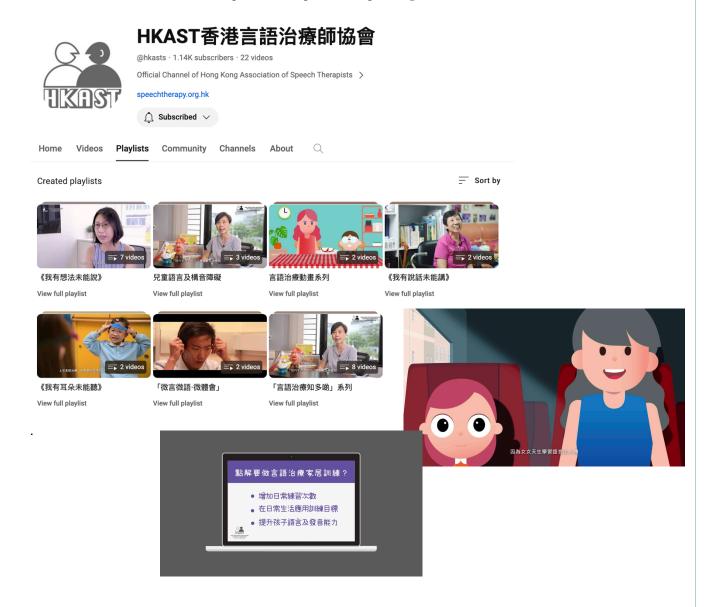




PUBLIC AWARENESS

YouTube Channel

The Hong Kong Association of Speech Therapists (HKAST) has established its own YouTube channel dedicated to enhancing public awareness of speech therapy. We are committed to regularly producing educational videos and animations that inform the community about the importance of speech therapy and its impact on individuals with communication challenges. Through engaging content shared on social media, we aim to reach a broader audience, providing valuable insights and resources that promote understanding and support for those in need of speech therapy services. Our goal is to foster a well-informed public that recognizes the significance of effective communication and the role of speech therapists in improving lives.



COLLABORATION

Hong Kong IDDSI Reference Group



Best Practices In Enhancing Swallowing Safety: Implementing IDDSI Framework in Hong Kong

We are pleased to announce our collaboration with the Hong Kong IDDSI Reference Group for a recent event focused on enhancing the understanding and application of the International Dysphagia Diet Standardisation Initiative (IDDSI) framework. This partnership aimed to provide valuable insights and practical guidance for professionals working in the field of dysphagia management. Attendees gained a deeper knowledge of standardized dietary practices, ensuring improved care for individuals with swallowing difficulties.



COLLABORATION

Asia Pacific Society of Speech, Language and Hearing



HKAST has become an official affiliated members of the Asia Pacific Society of Speech, Language and Hearing (APSSLH) since 2021. All HKAST members can enjoy APSSLH membership benefits including free access to the Speech, Language, and Hearing Journal and Folia Phoniatrica et logopaedia Journal; reduced fees to attend the APSSLH and International Association of Communication Disorders (IALP)'s conferences and scientific events. Also, members will get the opportunity to present your work at the APSSLH's scientific events such as Special Interest Groups (SIGs), build a network and collaborate with researchers, practitioners, and students in Asia and Pacific countries including the US.

In October 2022, HKAST co-organised an online symposium with APSSLH and the Thai-Speech and Language Association.



This symposium brought together experts and practitioners from the region to discuss contemporary issues and advancements in the fields of speech, language, and hearing. **Participants** engaged in informative presentations and interactive discussions, fostering a rich exchange of knowledge and best practices. The event served as an invaluable platform for networking and collaboration among professionals, enhancing their understanding of the challenges and opportunities within the field.

We look forward to continuing such collaborative efforts to promote excellence in speech and language therapy across the Asia Pacific region.

MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

HKAST had established mentorship programme to create a supportive mentoring relationship between experienced HKAST members (Mentors) and members who are newly-qualified, oversea graduates, and/or with less than 4 years of working experience (Mentees), to facilitate their learning, social, and personal growth as a young professional.



The mentorship programme lasted between December 2022 to August 2023. We received many positive feedbacks and suggestions from the mentors and mentees. HKAST will continue the mentorship programme in the coming year!

MEMBER NETWORK

To strengthen member connections and enhance our professional network, we regularly organize a variety of activities and events. In the 2022-2023 period, we hosted sign language classes specifically designed for speech therapists, fostering greater communication skills and inclusivity within our profession. Additionally, we facilitated an online sharing session where individuals from the deaf community and their parents shared their personal stories and experiences. This initiative not only raised awareness but also created a platform for meaningful dialogue and understanding among participants.







MEMBER NETWORK

In our efforts to cater to diverse interests within our membership, we also organized a range of social activities. These events included a bouldering class, which encouraged physical fitness and teamwork, as well as a board game gathering that provided a relaxed environment for members to connect and unwind. By offering these varied activities, we aim to strengthen relationships among members, promote collaboration, and create a supportive community that v alues both professional development and personal connections.







MEMBERS' BENEFITS

E-eXpress

HKAST eXpress was sent out monthly to members via emails to update on recent activities, relevant continuing education events and job vacancies.

Profession Indemnity Insurance

In 2022-2023, HKAST continued to collaborate with Charterlloyd Insurance Brokers Ltd to provide a Professional Indemnity Insurance package to our members, which protects speech therapists against any unfair allegation of professional misconduct at the hearing of professional association by support of legal presentation and its costs and expenses, which may be a huge sum of cost. Individual professional indemnity insurance is mandatory for speech therapists to register for Hong Kong Institute of Speech Therapists.

BowtieGo

In 2022-2023, Bowtie Insurance (https://www.bowtie.com.hk/) has opened up their BowtieGo package to all members of HKAST. Our members can simply use the promotional code to apply for their package.



MEMBERS' BENEFITS

ASHA Journal Subscription

order In enhance professional development of our members, **HKAST** has connected with American Speech-Launguage-Hearing Association (ASHA) to provided exclusive discount for HKAST full members on subscribing four scholarly journals (American Journal of Audiology, American Journal of Speech Language Pathology, Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research, Language, Speech and Hearing Sciences in Schools).

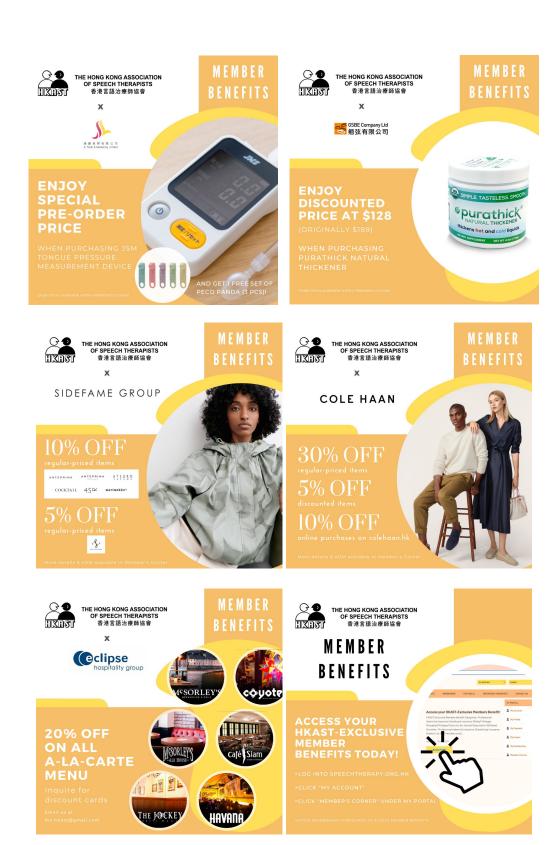


APSSLH Affiliated Member's Benefit



As an affiliated member of the Asia Pacific Society for Speech, Language and Hearing (APSSLH), HKAST is pleased to extend a range of exclusive benefits to our full members. Members gain access to a wealth resources, including professional development opportunities, networking events, and the latest research in the fields of speech, language, and hearing. Members can also participate in regional conferences workshops, enhancing knowledge and skills while connecting with peers across the Asia Pacific region. This affiliation not only enriches the professional experience of our members but also fosters collaboration and growth within the speech therapy community.

MEMBERS' BENEFITS



VOLUNTEER SERVICE

HKAST) actively engages in volunteer services that enrich the lives of individuals with disabilities. This year, we recruited speech therapists and speech therapy students to participate in visits to a hostel in Tung Chung that supports individuals with moderate to severe handicaps. Over the course of two visits, our volunteers interacted with the residents, providing companionship and support. The service users expressed their joy and appreciation for the visits, highlighting the positive impact of our outreach efforts. These experiences not only fostered connections between our volunteers and the community but also underscored the importance of empathy and support for individuals with disabilities.



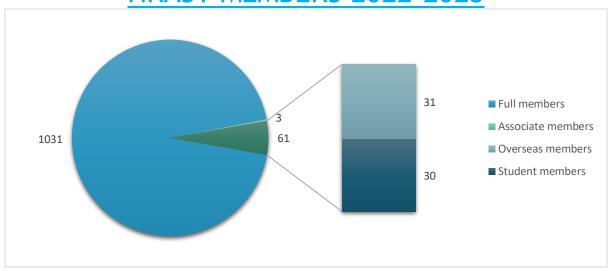




APPENDIX A

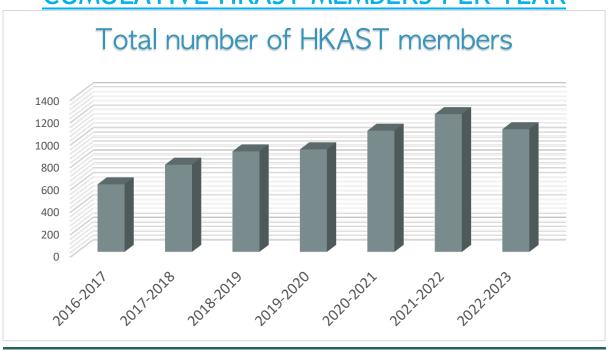
MEMBERSHIP PROFILE

HKAST MEMBERS 2022-2023



TOTAL NO. OF MEMBERS: 1095

CUMULATIVE HKAST MEMBERS PER YEAR



APPENDIX B

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2022-2023

New bank account was setup in May 2022 at Shanghai Commercial Bank. All income and expenses were managed under HKAST Society's HSBC bank account. Detailed financial report (y.e. 31st Dec, 2023) will be released in the AGM of HKAST Co. Ltd.

Financial Summary (From 1st Aug, 2022 to 30th Sep, 2023)

Bank balance on 31st Jul, 2022: 1,114,505.39

30th Sep, 2023: 1,103,910.96

Total Income: 469,126.70

Total Expenditure: 479,721.13

Net Expenditure: 10,594.43

APPENDIX C

LIST OF PAST CHAIRPERSONS

| 1984 – 1986 | MRS. GILLIAN TETTMAR |
|-------------|-----------------------------|
| 1987 – 1990 | PROF. TARA WHITEHILL |
| 1990 – 1991 | PROF. ROSEMARY VARLEY |
| 1991 – 1993 | MS. HA SIU YUET, JOANNE |
| 1993 – 1998 | DR. LEUNG MAN TAK |
| 1998 – 2000 | MS. CHUNG YUK MAY ELIZABETH |
| 2000 – 2001 | MS. SARAH CHAN |
| 2001 – 2003 | MR. KO CHIN PANG, PATRICK |
| 2003 – 2004 | DR. CHAN MAN KEI, KAREN |
| 2004 – 2005 | MS. WONG YAM MAN, WENDY |
| 2005 – 2010 | DR. NG HO YEE, JANET |
| 2010 – 2012 | MR. RAYMOND FONG |
| 2012 – 2014 | MR. AU CHI YEUNG, DANNY |
| 2014 – 2020 | MR. LAI KING LOK, JOSHUA |
| 2020 – 2023 | MS. LAM JODY PUI YEE |