

Professional Course brought to you by:
HK Progress Speech Therapy Centre



Speech & Language Preverbal Skills Therapy



May 16 & 17, 2026. (Sat & Sun)
9:00 am – 5:30 pm

Presenter: Louisa Wong C.Y.

Venue: First Commercial Building, 33-35 Leighton Road,
Causeway Bay, HONG KONG.
The Hong Kong Management Association

The Presenter:

Louisa Wong C. Y. graduated from the University of Hong Kong (B.Sc. Speech & Hearing Sciences) in 1995, and has more than 31 years of experience in teaching special children with speech and language learning difficulties. She spent the first nine years working as a full-time Speech Therapist in moderate grade special school, special child care centers and early educational training centers respectively, providing assessment and treatment for 2- to 16-year old children and students who have speech, language and communication delay and disorders with a variety of diagnoses, including Speech and Language Delay, Down Syndrome, Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Fragile X Syndrome, Angelman Syndrome, Cri du chat Syndrome, Prader-Willi Syndrome, Treacher-Collins Syndrome, SynGAP, NGLY Deficiency etc.

Louisa founded Hong Kong Progress Speech Therapy Centre in Hong Kong in 2004, and has been working as a Speech Therapist in private practice since then. She has been using TalkTools®/ Oral Placement Therapy since 2005, and finds these innovative therapeutic techniques extremely effective in helping children with feeding and speech difficulties that are due to muscle weaknesses. Louisa got her Level 5 Instructor Certification issued by TalkTools® in Feb 2009 in Arizona, USA, and became the first Oral Placement Specialist/Instructor taught by Sara Rosenfeld-Johnson and recognized by TalkTools® in Asia. Louisa is the translator of TalkTools® instructions, Oral Placement Therapy professional books, and OPT Level 1 and Level 2 workshop materials in traditional and simplified Chinese Languages.

Louisa is now certified to teach Level 1 through 3 Oral Placement Therapy courses by TalkTools®, and had been an invited speaker in different organizations in Hong Kong, China, Dubai and Taiwan. In addition, She had previously received special training in Picture Exchange Communication System/ PECS (Bondy & Frost, Apr 1997, HK), Evaluation and Treatment of Swallowing Disorders (Jeri A. Logemann, Apr 2001), Beckman Oral Motor Techniques (Debra Beckman, Feb 2003, HK), Prompts for Restructuring Oral Muscular Phonetic Targets/ PROMPT (Deborah A. Hayden, Oct 2003, HK), Teaching Social Thinking and Social Skills to Young Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders at Home and at School (Michelle Garcia Winner, Feb 2005, Singapore), It Takes Two to Talk. The Hanen Program for Parents (2010 HK), Mediated Learning Experience: Instrumental Enrichment 1 (The Feurestein Institute, July 2012, Paris, France), Mediated Learning Experience: Feurestein Instrumental Enrichment Basic 1 (The Feurestein Institute, July 2013, Paris, France), The Riddle of Autism – Solved! (Martha S. Burn, Oct 2013, HK), Myofascial Release and Other Manual Techniques in Dysphagia Management (John Kelly, March 2014, HK), Dynamic Assessment for Young Children – Theory and Application (David Tzuriel, HK, Dec 2014), Public Lecture on IE Tactile-Kinesthetic Program (Roman Gouzman, Mar 2015, HK), Orofacial Myology: Make the Connection (July 2019, Brisbane, Australia), Obstructive Sleep Apnea Workshop (National Yang-Ming University, Taipei, Taiwan, Sept 2019), SOS4TOTS (Dr. Larry Kotlow, June 2020), Untying Ankyloglossia: The Impact on Infants and Children (Bobby Ghaheri, MD, Jan 2023), The Breathe Course (Soroush Zaghi, Los Angeles, USA, July 2023) and Functional Orofacial Myofunctional Therapy (Linda D’Onofrio, Brisbane, Australia, March 2025).

SLPS Course Description:

Teaching kids who are nonverbal is the most challenging job for professionals in the rehabilitation field. Building the foundation for speaking and understanding language by establishing preverbal skills such as turn-taking, imitation, and play skills can help kids and students with speech, language and communication needs, as well as developmental language disorders tremendously.

SLPS Course Outcomes:

You will be able to:

1. Learn how a clinician should interact with children and teenagers with Autism Spectrum Disorders, by knowing the EBP model by ASHA, reading what the teenagers with ASD wrote, and learning a neurobiological hypothesis on Autism.
2. Learn the importance of adapting a Socio-Pragmatic approach to speech and language training than the traditional behavioral approach, by understanding Vygotsky's theory and the criticism on ABA approach.
3. Learn the intervention approaches that are suitable for use in low-functioning kids and students.
4. Learn from the presenter's frontline experience on how to prepare oneself psychologically and physically before the start of therapy.
5. Analyze the needs of parents and their kids with language learning difficulties.
6. Know how to set up your own clinic rooms and prepare your therapy materials and toys by referring to the presenter's decades of experience.
7. Learn the SLPS development and 14 preverbal skills which are the foundation for communication and language learning.
8. Learn micro-clinical skills by watching many real case video clips.

SLPS Therapy: Course Agenda	
Day 1	Day 2
<p>A. Understanding Nonverbal Kids & Teens from First-Person Perspective</p> <p>B. Behavioral vs Sociocultural Theory</p> <p>C. Intervention Approaches for Low-Functioning Kids: - Milieu Communication Teaching (MCT) - Focused Stimulation Approach (FSA) - Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)</p> <p>D. Preparation before Therapy: - Know Children's Rights - Psychological & Physical Preparation of Clinicians - Know your Kids and Parents - Environmental Set-up in Clinic & Home - Materials & Therapy Toys</p>	<p>E. Speech & Language Preverbal Skills (SLPS): - SLPS Development Checklist - SLPS Stage 1 Skills: 1. Sitting 2. Cooperation 3. Eye Contact 4. Joint Attention 5. Object Permanence - SLPS Stage 2 Skills: 6. Communication Intention 7. Turn-taking 8. Imitation (Pam Marshall's Stages) 9. Object Concept 10. Means-end Concept 11. Matching Skills 12. Play Skills 13. Gestures Use 14. Shaping Vocalizations</p> <p>* Case Studies (real case videos will be used to illustrate the different preverbal skills)</p>

Morning Break: 10:30-10:45am Afternoon Break: 3:30-3:45pm
 Water, tea and coffee will be provided at breaks
 Lunch: on your own

This workshop will be presented in spoken Cantonese

Workbook will be in written English

Target Audience:

local Speech Therapists and Special Child Care Workers in Hong Kong and Macau only

Accreditation:

The Hong Kong Institute of Speech Therapist (HKIST) – CPD-ST 14 points (tbc)

Please claim CEPST points on your own online post workshop at <https://hkist.org.hk>

- ◆ A complimentary book entitled 「兒童言語治療 語言前基礎訓練技巧」(第二版) "Speech and Language Preverbal Skills (SLPS) Training" (2nd Edition) written by Louisa Wong C.Y. & Pauline Poon P.L. (2017)
- ◆ Course fee cannot be deduced if the compliment is not wanted
- ◆ 100% attendance is mandatory to guarantee an attendance certificate
- ◆ Registration will only be confirmed when full payment is made
- ◆ No registration fee will be refunded after confirmation of registration
- ◆ Should the course be cancelled due to typhoons, Black Rainstorm Signal, infectious diseases or other unforeseeable circumstances and/or conditions, the organizer shall try to, and has the right to re-schedule the course to different dates and/or venue.

SLPS Course Registration Procedure

1. Fill in Registration Form
2. Conduct payment through FPS, bank in or cheque
3. Send Registration Form with payment receipt to us by e mail or by post
4. Get confirmation e mail to secure a seat