

28 August 2014

SPEECH PATHOLOGY SEES FOUR YEAR OLD TYLER COMMUNICATE WITH LOVED ONES

Four year old Tyler, who resides in Noranda, is now able to communicate with family and friends thanks to the support he and his family receive from Senses Australia's Early Intervention Therapy Services.

Speech Pathologist Caris Rankin, says Tyler, who has a diagnosis of global development delay, has been receiving speech pathology since earlier this year and is making wonderful progress.

"Tyler's mother, has been doing an excellent job in taking on the strategies we have recommended which has meant that Tyler has achieved some fantastic outcomes.

"When we first met Tyler, Tyler's mother wanted a way for him to communicate as he was couldn't speak and was becoming increasingly frustrated, I discussed with her the benefits of Augmentative and Alternative Communication," says Caris.

Augmentative and Alternative Communication or AAC are strategies to support communication. For Tyler, we are using a communication book. We are also using language modelling strategies to create opportunities for communication, like following Tyler's lead in play, waiting and observing, providing clear and simple language supported by gesture and imitation.

"Supported use of the AAC booklet within Tyler's daily activities has meant that he is now communicating in three word combinations, which means he can get across his basic wants and needs. He is also following instructions in a more accurate way and has recently just said five words verbally," says Caris.

Senses Australia is celebrating Speech Pathology Week 2014 from Sunday, 24 August 2014 to Saturday, 30 August 2014. The 2014 theme for this national week is 'A Nation for Communication'. During Speech Pathology Week, Senses Australia's speech pathology team are aiming to raise awareness and increase the understanding of communication disorders and how they impact on people's lives.

To find out more about how Senses Australia supports the Western Australian community and provides support services to people of all ages with disability or to people who are deafblind, visit www.senses.org.au

Ends.

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Media Release



Photographic Opportunity

Tyler and Caris Rankin, Speech Pathologist, are available for interview or photographic opportunity. Please contact Claire Rowe, Media Contact to arrange.

Senses Australia

Senses Australia is a leading, not for profit, disability services provider, providing support services to people of all ages throughout Western Australia.

In 2015, Senses Australia will celebrate 120 years of service to people with disability in Western Australia.

To find out more about Senses Australia please visit www.senses.org.au.

