**Project Title:** Reliability and fidelity of clinical data collection  
**Code:** FHS5

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<tr>
<th>Host School / Institute</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<td>Faculty of Health Sciences</td>
<td>Liverpool Hospital</td>
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**Certificates & Clearances required:** Yes  
*Working with children clearance*  
*Police clearance*

*Information on how to obtain certificates, where necessary, will be given to successful applicants.*

**Primary Supervisor:** [Prof Tricia McCabe](mailto:tricia.mccabe@sydney.edu.au)

**Phone:** 02 9351 9747  
**Email:** tricia.mccabe@sydney.edu.au

**Co-Supervisor/team:** Liverpool Hospital Speech Pathology Department including Jennie Cusiter, Brooke Bunn and Marcia Leong

**Project Type:** Clinical; Data Analysis

**Project Category:** Speech Pathology; Paediatrics/Child Health

**Skills / Attributes of a successful student:** The successful student will
- have basic Microsoft office skills (esp Word and Excel)
- have good time management and organisation skills
- be able to identify what they do and don't know and ask for help in a timely manner
- be able to work in a team and to seek support when they need it from team members.

**Project Keywords:** paediatric; speech; development; apraxia; communication

**Project Description:**
The University of Sydney leads the world in developing new treatments for children with severe speech disorders. Our team is responsible for half of all treatment papers published in the last 10 years in how to treat Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) which is a severe developmental speech disorder. Children with CAS often have comorbid disorders including stuttering, resonance disorder, adhd and autism however we do not know the frequency of any of these comorbidities.

The team at Sydney have been developing better treatments for CAS over the past 12 years and have built up a considerable database of children with CAS. This project will describe the children who have been referred for treatment and quantify the known comorbidities of these children.

The project may include:
- searching clinical files for information
- listening to and/or watching assessments and treatment to observe the presence of various disorders
- interviewing members of the research team.
- developing a database using Excel
- making recommendations for future research practice and projects.

The results of the project will be reported at a research conference and the student may be supported to attend the conference. Should enough data be available, a research paper will be written with the student and submitted for publication.