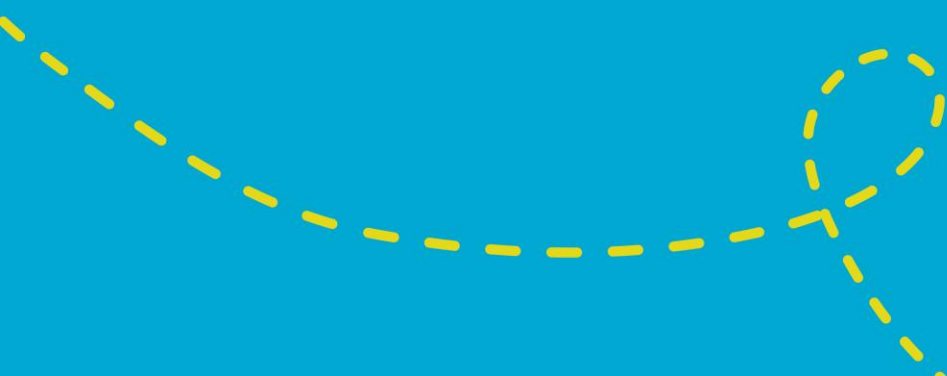




Kirstie Denning

**'Assisting kids' with Ability WA's
specialised equipment library**



AssisTkids Specialised Equipment Library

- ✦ Ability WA's AssisTkids Equipment Library is the first of its kind in WA
- ✦ Almost 100 pieces of specialised equipment for kids and families, when and where it is needed
- ✦ Strollers, activity chairs, commodes, bath chairs, manual wheelchairs, sleep and positioning equipment, powered mobility devices and communication devices available
- ✦ Accessible to WA children aged 0-7 years regardless of their funding or financial circumstances
- ✦ A 'mobility for all' approach particularly for on time powered mobility
- ✦ Hire fees for NDIS customers apply (fees are waived if no funding)
- ✦ AssisTkids is proudly sponsored by Telethon

Empowering kids to realise their abilities

- ✦ Timely access to equipment without waiting for funding approvals
- ✦ Multiple sizes to choose from in the majority of the available Assistive Technology (AT) with added growth capabilities
- ✦ Improved developmental outcomes, independence and participation
- ✦ Increased freedom, opportunity and agency
- ✦ Exposure to contemporary AT options from an early age to develop skills
- ✦ Reduced family stress
- ✦ Reduction in abandonment of expensive AT, as it can be returned to the library and an alternate device trialled if needed





How the **magic** happens

- ★ Referred via their therapists, where an Ability WA therapist with AT knowledge may be required to determine the most suitable equipment, ensuring safety, function and fit
- ★ Hire the equipment NOW for up to 6 months, whilst waiting for NDIS funded equipment
- ★ Allows families to trial equipment that is not easy to access from other suppliers, prior to purchasing
- ★ As the child grows and develops, families can have access to alternative or additional equipment as required
- ★ Outcome measures set using Canadian Occupational Performance Measuring Tool (COPM-T)
- ★ Expected to be life changing for around 300 children and their families this year

Positive impact on families

- ✦ Enables children to attend school without delay; schools may have a “no-lift policy” or lack of suitable AT, resulting in some children not attending school.
- ✦ Enables community access for families and for them to be able to travel longer distances
- ✦ Provides safety and stability for the child during challenging and stressful activities, such as mealtimes
- ✦ Equipment does the heavy lifting - the equipment carries oxygen cylinders instead of the parents

“We are so very grateful to Ability WA and Telethon for granting us access to equipment through the AssisTKid’s library. Using mobility aids has enabled our son Logan to actively engage with his siblings, and has provided him with more motivation to progress his motor skills to the next stage. Had we needed to wait until we have NDIS funding to purchase this very expensive equipment, we would have missed this crucial window of opportunity.

Thank you!”

Taryn, Logan’s mum



AssisTKids
Specialised Equipment Library