Orthophonie VoxLingue Speech and Language

Printable sheet

Before you call: what to note, and who to call for your child's difficulty

Fill in the first page before you call the school or a professional. A few words are enough. Bring it along with any report cards and reports you have.

Your child

Age _____ **Grade** _____

School or daycare _____ **Languages at home** _____

Language of school _____

What you notice

The difficulty, in your own words

Talking, understanding, pronouncing, reading, writing, calculating, learning, adjusting

One or two concrete examples

What they said or wrote, what happened

Where and since when

Home, class, daycare: what repeats from one place to another

What the school has already tried

What the teacher has put in place, whether an intervention plan exists

What your child does well

What helps, what they enjoy

Assessments and reports so far

From whom, on what date. Report cards to bring

Your main question

What you would like to know by the end of the call

A good first call, often

Our own reading of the published scopes of practice. It doesn't come from a professional order or an association, and it isn't a rule.

What you notice	A good first call, often
A preschooler who talks little or late	**A speech therapist. In the public system: your CLSC (Agir tôt, under 7)**
Speech sounds, stuttering, voice, swallowing	**A speech therapist**
Understanding instructions, finding words, building sentences	**A speech therapist**
Reading is hard in class	**The teacher, then the school's orthopédagogue**
Suspected dyslexia, and you want a clear answer	**A speech therapist, a psychologist or a neuropsychologist**
Spelling and writing	**The school first, then either one**
Math	**The school or an orthopédagogue. A speech therapist if language seems involved**
Strategies for learning	**An orthopédagogue, at school or in private practice**
Attention, a question about ADHD	**A physician or a psychologist**
Behaviour, adjustment at school	**The school team, which may include a psychoeducator**

The roles overlap, especially for reading and writing, and either professional can redirect a family. You don't need a diagnosis to ask for help at school.

Checking title and training

Speech therapist
The OOAQ's verification tool shows the right to practise and any restriction. In Ontario, see CASLPO's public register.

Orthopédagogue
According to the ADOQ, no professional order yet. Ask about training. On the ADOQ's table of members, MP shows completed qualifying training, MV or MA training under way. Membership is voluntary.

Three questions for the call

- [ ] Do you often see this difficulty at my child's age?
- [ ] What will your report contain: a diagnosis, a conclusion or a picture of the difficulties?
- [ ] If this isn't your field, who would you send me to?

Sources: OOAQ; ADOQ; Québec.ca. Up to date as of November 2, 2026. General information: this sheet doesn't replace an assessment.