Stuttering can come in different forms.

- The child might repeat a sound (e.g. I s-s-s-saw the elephant)
- The child might repeat a syllable in a word (e.g. I saw the el-el-el-elephant)
- The child might repeat a single word
- The child might repeat a phrase (e.g. I saw- I saw -I saw the elephant)
- The child might prolong the sounds in a word (e.g. I saw the elllllephant)
- The child might have ‘blocks’. This is where the child does not appear to be able to get any words out.

Points to Note:

Stuttering may or may not bother the child. However it is always important that the child is referred off to a speech therapist as soon as possible because stuttering can be completely fixed when the child is young.

Parents often say that they’ll wait until the child grows out of it. Some children can ‘grow out’ of stuttering but other children may not. It is best to get it dealt with straight away so that it doesn’t become permanent. In teenagers and adults, stuttering is very difficult to fix completely. Stuttering is not linked to language or literacy difficulties. It is not yet known what causes stuttering.

Helpful Links:

Merrylands Community Health


Speech Pathology Australia Website – Find a Private therapist