



Communication and Assistive Technology Enhancing lifestyle and independence by providing information about communication and assistive technology

Yooralla supports people with disability and seniors, their families and carers to access information about communication and assistive technology that can enhance everyday lifestyle activities.

Devices and technologies can include equipment to enhance independence, including:

- everyday equipment in the home
- mobility equipment, such as walkers and wheelchairs
- modifications to your environment
- speech generating communication devices and software, and
- switches and other access peripherals.

Yooralla provides services that enhance your lifestyle and communication ability, by providing you with information about, and access to, assistive technologies and equipment.

Independent Living Centre

Assistive technology advice is provided through Yooralla's Independent Living Centre (ILC). The ILC is a state-wide service.

Assistive technology can be viewed and trialed at the ILC, and therapists are available to provide information and advice to ensure you make informed choices about the equipment that is best suited to your needs.

The centre does not sell equipment, but provides retailer details through a national equipment database (www.ilcaustralia.org.au). This allows us to provide impartial advice about what may suit you.

ComTEC

Yooralla's ComTEC team provides assistance for people who are having difficulty using speech to communicate, or finding it hard to manage technology at home, school or work.

Our team of therapists provide practical advice on communication and assistive technology, as well as strategies for making it easier to:

- get your message across
- stay engaged in work, play and learning
- connect with friends and family, and
- use and control your technology.

We can also provide you with technical support to assist you in setting up your assistive technologies. Communication and assistive technologies can include:

- speech generating devices and apps for tablets and smartphones, to provide a backup or alternative if it is difficult to get your message across
- using alternatives to the standard mouse and keyboard, and



- simple devices to increase control, such as infrared remotes that allow you to change television channels if using your hands is difficult.

Electronic Communication Devices Scheme

The Electronic Communication Devices Scheme is a state-wide service that subsidises speech generating communication devices and software for children and adults who have no speech or speech that is difficult to understand. The scheme also subsidises equipment to make it easier for people to operate the communication device (e.g. switches and peripherals) or to position the device securely (mounting systems).

Applications for equipment must be from speech pathologists or occupational therapists. Applications for communication technology for NDIS participants are also accepted. For further information visit: www.yooralla.com.au/ecds.

Equipment Library

The ILC Equipment Library provides short-term loans of specialised equipment for children and adults with disability.

A broad range of equipment can be borrowed for an initial period of one month.

Equipment may include walking and mobility aids, seating, wheelchairs, transfer and standing equipment, hygiene equipment, transport equipment and child seats.

Yooralla Library

Yooralla has a disability specific library that provides a wide-range of information and resources. The collection includes books, journals and standards on all aspects of disability including assistive technology, therapy, social inclusion, human rights and other related areas.

The library has access to a wide range of online databases and catalogues. For more information visit: www.yooralla.com.au/library.

Why choose Yooralla?

- Yooralla is a disability specialist. We provide high quality, evidence-based supports for people with high and complex needs.
- We are a not-for-profit organisation that has been supporting people with disability since 1918.
- We have specialty skills in Autism Spectrum Disorder, dual diagnosis, functional communication, sensory processing and acquired brain injury.
- We provide services across all ages, stages and needs, to ensure the person with disability receives the services they need at the time and place they need them.

Visit a centre

To visit the Independent Living Centre, or to talk to a therapist, organise a tour or book an appointment please call us.

Therapists can use the ILC to conduct non-assisted appointments to trial equipment with their own clients. Please call to make a booking.



**Independent
Living Centre**

Shop C1, Central West Shopping Centre
67 Ashley Street
Braybrook VIC 3019
Hours: 9.00am-4.30pm Monday to Friday

**Independent
Living Centre
(MS Nerve Centre)**

54 Railway Road
Blackburn VIC 3130
Hours: 9.00am-4.30pm Tuesday to Thursday (by appointment only)

Phone

1300 885 886 (Victoria only)
03 9362 6111 (National)

TTY

03 9687 0301

Email

ilc@yooralla.com.au

Website

www.yooralla.com.au

Yooralla is a registered NDIS provider.



Need language help?

Contact the Translating and
Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50

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