

What is Resonance?

Resonance describes the vibration of the air in the mouth, throat, and nasal cavities during the production of speech. It can sometimes sound very nasally or muffled.

Hypernasality: Hypernasality happens when there is too much air coming from the nose during the production of speech, enabling it to sound 'nasally'. Some causes include issues with inappropriate or incomplete velopharyngeal closure due to a cleft palate or learned behaviour.

Hyponasality: Hyponasality happens when there is not enough air coming through the nose during the production of speech. It often sounds like the person has a stuffy nose or a cold. Some causes are due to allergies, birth defects, enlarged adenoids, swollen membranes, and growths in the nasal area such as nasal polyps.

For any questions, please reach out to your Speech-Language Therapist