



Iona Sinclair

Speech and Language Therapist Hertfordshire Partnership NHS Trust

What does your job involve?

I work with Adults with Learning Disabilities in the community. My role involves assessing a service user's communication skills, providing interventions such as AAC, then providing carers with information and supporting them to communicate with the service user more effectively.

When did you start your job, and how did you find it?

I was offered the job while I was still studying in March 2018, and started in August. I found the job when a friend sent me the link to the NHS jobs page!

How did you prepare for interviews?

I found the RCSLT Student Day really useful! I also spent a lot of time thinking about *why* I wanted the job – this meant that in the interview I was able to show how enthusiastic I was about the role

What does your typical day look like?

My days vary so much; some days I see three or four service users, other days I see none! When I'm not doing direct work with service users, I am either attending training or team meetings, providing training to carers, writing reports or creating communication aids such as visual schedules

Do you have supervision support as an NQP and are you currently working through your competency framework?

I do have a supervisor, who I meet with every few weeks to discuss how things are going and we go through the NQP competency framework. But actually, the team I work with are all so supportive I feel like I am constantly receiving supervision and advice from them! There's always someone around to help.

My advice to students:

- ❖ Make the most of your final year, and enjoy it!
- ❖ Don't worry about not having much experience, being enthusiastic and passionate is more important!
- ❖ Take a chance and don't limit yourself - You won't regret it!

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