



Mission Statement

A UK-wide network of speech and language therapists that strives to ensure that speech and language therapy is an evidence-based, research-active profession, bringing together research and clinical practice by working in partnership with the RCSLT and wider research networks.

Vision

- Each SLT in the UK will have access to a RCSLT Research Champion.
- Each SLT service will have a culture of applying evidence and gathering evidence of effectiveness that is supported by their research champion.
- Each research champion will be supported by the RCSLT to disseminate information, promote evidence-based practice, signpost SLTs to sources of support, facilitate collaborations and share good practice

Roles and responsibilities

Research Champions are SLTs who:

- Share our vision of an evidence-based and research-active profession
- Have experience of appraising and applying a range of evidence to clinical practice
- Encourage and facilitate the application and gathering of evidence within their organisations
- Will be using research, audit and evaluation to support practice

Research champions can be from all stages of their careers and all sectors and the role and responsibilities for each champion will differ according to place of work, level of experience and areas of interest. Key elements of the role include:

- disseminating information on new evidence, new resources and opportunities to local colleagues, supported by the RCSLT
- Promoting using evidence and collecting practice-based evidence within your team/organisation
- Sharing good practice and raising the profile of research in speech and language therapy within your team/organisation, RCSLT hub and the RCSLT Research Champion Network.

For further suggestions on how RCSLT Research Champions can support their colleagues see our 'RCSLT Research Champion Activity Menu' (<https://tinyurl.com/y8tg4cs2>)

Research Champions will share their learning and inform the RCSLT and fellow colleagues on the activities they have undertaken to fulfil their responsibilities.

Responsibilities of the RCSLT

The RCSLT will provide information on latest evidence, resources and opportunities to enable Research Champions to support their colleagues. We will coordinate the network and support mentoring and collaboration through a directory and discussion boards. The RCSLT Research and Development team will be available for advice and support, provide CPD opportunities as appropriate and continue to raise the profile of the network.

Key contact: Katie Chadd, RCSLT Research Support Officer (katie.chadd@rcslt.org).