

Speech and Language Therapist Rampton High Secure Psychiatric Hospital



Florence Cheesman

What does your job involve?

My case load mostly consists of adult males, all of whom are sectioned under the Mental Health Act. They have a variety of diagnoses including mental health difficulties (e.g schizophrenia), personality disorders, and learning disability.

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

I was lucky enough to have my final year placement at Rampton, so I was aware that a job vacancy had arisen. It was a Band 6 job, but I was able to transfer the knowledge I had gained to prove that I could rise to the challenge.

How did you prepare for interviews?

I found it helpful to write some case studies on services users that I felt I learnt a lot from. These were both good and bad! It meant I could link the answers to my questions to real examples.

What does your typical day look like?

No day is a typical day at Rampton!

One of the most important aspect of my job is safety, and I ensure that I get a good hand over for each service user before having the session from their nursing team and case notes.

Assessment, individual and group therapy e.g. social skills form a big part of my day.

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

I am still working throughout my NQP competency framework, and I am receiving supervision for this. Supervision is highly important to me, as my team and I need to discuss particularly difficult service users.

My advice to students:

- A bad placement does not mean you are going to be a bad SLT.
- Try to help yourself before asking for help. It shows you are actively trying to problem solve even if it doesn't work out.

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