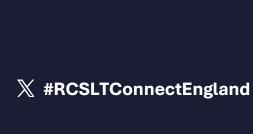


RCSLT Connect England

17 October 2024











Welcome and housekeeping

Steve Jamieson CEO, RCSLT







Housekeeping

- Do speak to RCSLT staff over breaks and lunch
- Toilets are located outside the main room and in the main hotel lobby
- There is no fire alarm today. Please follow the signs to the nearest exit if it goes off
- Refreshments will be served in the main room please do bring your lunch to the tables to sit and eat comfortably
- Workshops will be held in rooms on the 1st floor, as well as in the main room. Please refer to signage or speak to RCSLT staff if you are unsure of where to go
- Get involved on X #RCSLTConnectEngland







AHP opportunities – leadership, public health, health inequalities and environmental sustainability

Linda Hindle OBE

Deputy Chief AHP Officer and National Engagement Lead for Police, Fire and Ambulance Services

Office for Health Improvement and Disparities

Format

My career journey

My current role

Our public health journey

Health Inequalities – how can we make a difference

Our role in improving environmental sustainability

Things I would tell my early-career self

My career journey



Our Ambition – AHPs are recognised as an integral part of the public health workforce

- •Well over 200,000 AHPs and 40,000 AHP support workers in UK
- •Over 4 million contacts per week
- •AHPs work across NHS, social care, education, private and voluntary sectors
- •We work across the life course in a wide range of specialities



AHPs have the potential to add to virtually every public health priority

Why AHPs are well placed to improve health and reduce inequalities

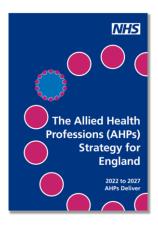
We routinely incorporate questioning around healthy lifestyles and wellbeing within our assessments.

Our interventions enable us to develop a relationship and rapport with clients

We have well developed behaviour change skills

We provide care in communities and closer to home







NHS Long Term Workforce Plan

June 2023





Context

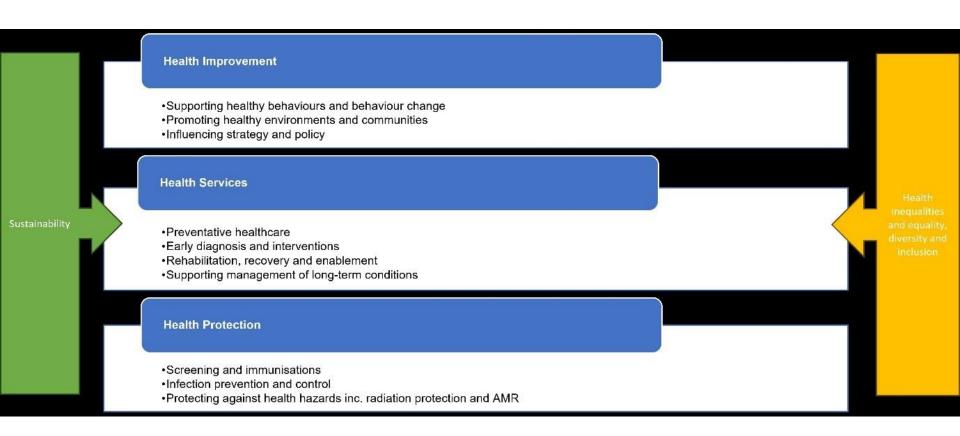
HCPC new standards about promoting public health and preventing ill-health

15.1: understand the role of their profession in health promotion, health education and preventing ill-health

15.2: understand how social, economic and environmental factors (wider determinants of health) can influence a person's health and well-being

15.3: empower and enable individuals (including service users and colleagues) to play a part in managing their own health

15.4: engage in occupational health, including being aware of immunisation requirements







Speech and language therapists role in public health



Speech language and communication development in early years

Making every contact count

Dysphagia support – improving nutrition and hydration

Communication access

Social prescribing opportunities such as community choirs

Our Journey

Our Ambition 'To be recognised as an integral part of the public health system'





2024 impact report Coming soon



2025-2030 strategy

Coming soon

@hindlelinda

Our progress

Increased recognition by stakeholders

Increased engagement by practitioners

Educators incorporating public health into their curricula

Increased focus on public health research by AHPs

Emerging themes for new UK AHP Public Health Strategy

Developing the workforce

Supporting environmental sustainability

Innovation and scale

Using data and intelligence

Social justice and wider impact

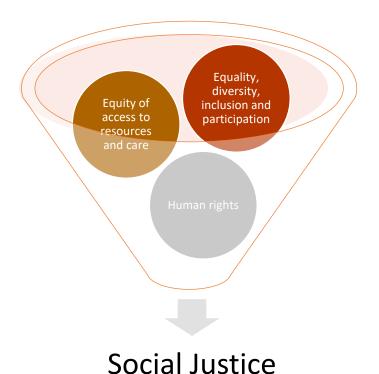
Health inequalities

Raising the profile of AHPs

A shared narrative across diverse settings

Advocating for communities

social justice

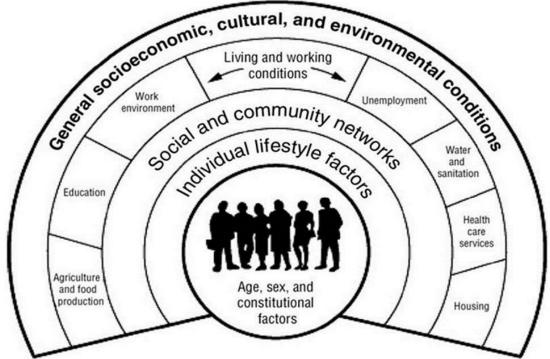


Social Justice is the objective of creating a fair and equal society in which each individual matters, their rights are recognised and protected and decisions are made in ways that are fair and honest

Health inequalities are avoidable, unfair and systematic differences in health between different groups of people

Health inequalities are sometimes referred to as the wider determinants of health or social determinants of health

Health inequalities have many drivers, but also present many opportunities to intervene



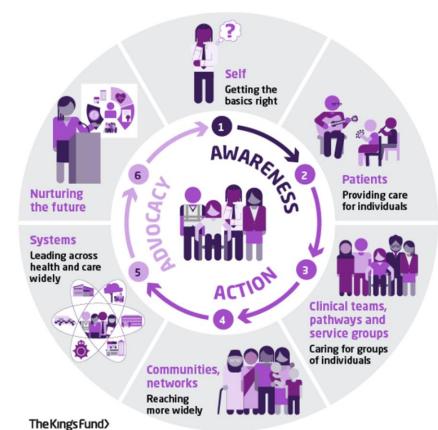
Source: Dahlgren and Whitehead, 1991

Between which groups might health inequalities exist?

- •Socio-economic status and deprivation: e.g. unemployed, low income, people living in deprived areas (e.g. poor housing, poor education and/or unemployment)
- Protected characteristics: e.g. age, sex, race, sexual orientation, disability
- •<u>Vulnerable groups of society, or 'inclusion health' groups: e.g. vulnerable.</u> migrants; Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities; rough sleepers and homeless people; and sex workers
- •Geography: e.g. urban, rural

My role in tackling health inequalities: a framework for allied health professionals | The King's Fund (kingsfund.org.uk) (2021)







Guidance

Addressing health inequalities across allied health professional (AHP) services: a guide for AHP system leaders

Published 9 May 2024

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/addressing-health-inequalities-across-alliedhealth-professional-ahp-services-a-guide-for-ahp-system-leaders/addressing-healthinequalities-across-allied-health-professional-ahp-services-a-quide-for-ahp-system-leaders

Why we have developed the Greener AHP Programme

- Climate change poses a major threat to our health as well as our planet.
 The environment is changing, that change is accelerating, and this has
 direct and immediate consequences for our patients, the public and the
 NHS.
- Climate change is a global emergency and we all have a role to play
- As the third largest clinical workforce in the NHS, AHPs (wherever they work) have a huge opportunity to contribute to a Greener NHS, tackle climate change and improve health
- Much of the work that AHPs do as standard practice already contributes to a Greener NHS
- The Greener AHP hub will help individuals find out how they can take action to help do more



Priority areas included in the Greener AHP Programme







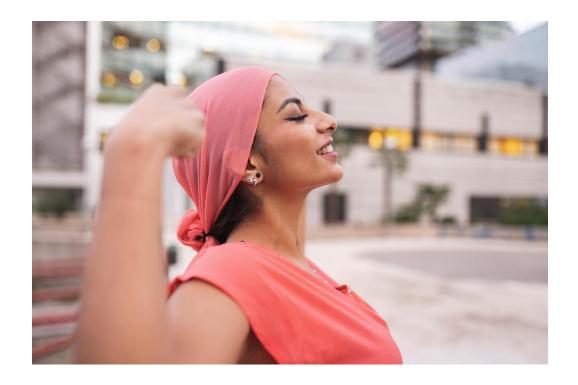




Tips for my younger self



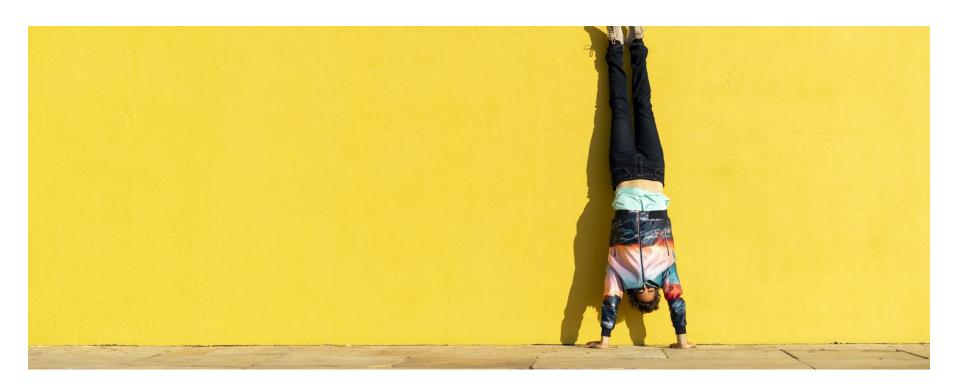
Know your strengths



Believe in yourself



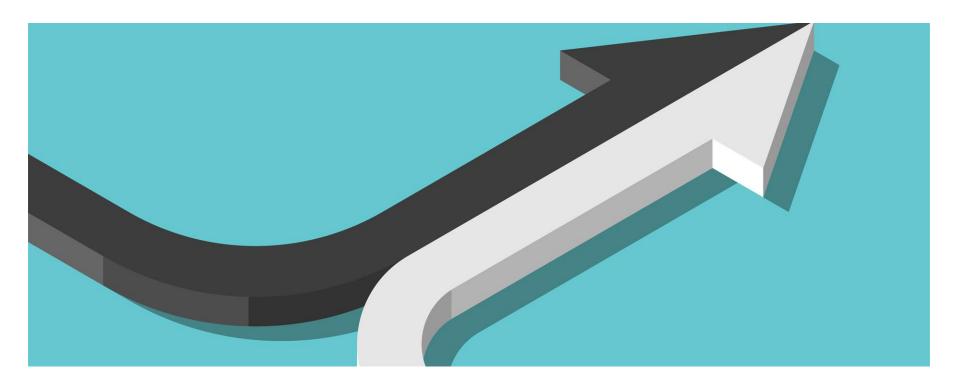
Take opportunities and try new things



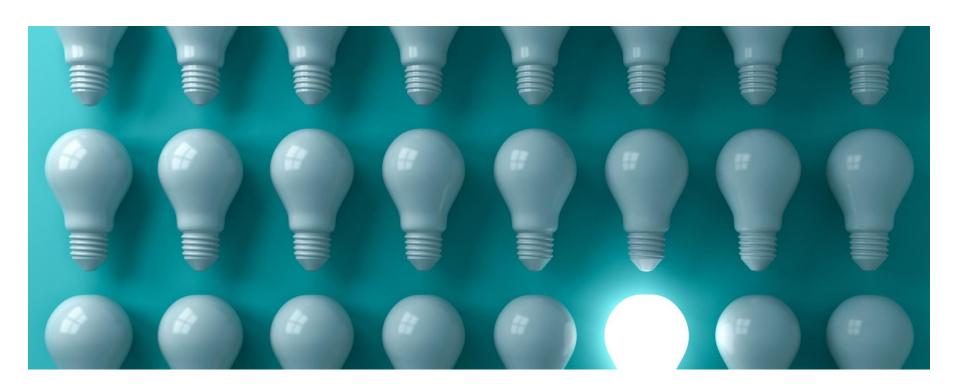
Develop and maintain relationships and partnerships



Develop your own agency



Maintain a positive, solution focused approach



Promote your work



Thank-you

Linda Hindle

Linda.hindle@dhsc.gov.uk

@hindlelinda





RCSLT vision and priorities

Derek Munn

Director of Policy and Public Affairs, RCSLT **Judith Broll**

Director of Professional Development, RCSLT







Our main areas of strategic focus

- Equality, diversity and inclusion
- Co-production with service users
- Innovation and excellence in research and clinical practice
- Workforce development
- Profile and opportunity
- Member engagement
- Organisational excellence



Priorities and big-ticket items for 2024 / 2025 - RCSLT



- Influence and provide opportunities for the SLT **workforce**, advocating in all four nations, improving our data and through the NHSE Professional Body Education Reform programme
- Prioritise **leadership** in the profession including the launch of our leadership programme
- Influence ahead of the UK **general election** and respond to the outcome
- Undertake a curriculum review and a guidance review and develop enhanced roles for the SLT profession
- Build member engagement and the member journey informed by **member** research
- Focus on **building the profile of the SLT profession**, including through the 80th anniversary of the RCSLT
- Continue to focus on organisational excellence including the People Strategy
- Be a leader in all aspects of EDI including refreshing our commitment to antiracism

Increasing the visibility of the profession and addressing workforce issues were key areas members felt the RCSLT should focus on



What areas or issues do you think the RCSLT should be focusing on? Open response coded into themes.

- 27% Increasing visibility of the profession
- 19% Addressing staff shortages
- 18% Promoting / improving learning
- 17% Advocating for adequate funding and resources
- 12% Promoting the retention of SLT in the NHS
- 11% Focusing on evidence base and research in/for SLTs
- 10% Supporting individual SLTs and understanding their working lives

Addressing the SLT workforce challenge



External drivers:

- NHSE LTWP predictions for SLT workforce;
- NHSE developing "effective staffing numbers" across nursing and AHPs.
- Waiting lists focused Ministers' attention but unmet need unrecognised;
- Political desire for "quick fixes" vs reality;
- ICBs budget reductions England;
- Student pipeline plateauing in England;

The RCSLT strategic vision: 2022-2027



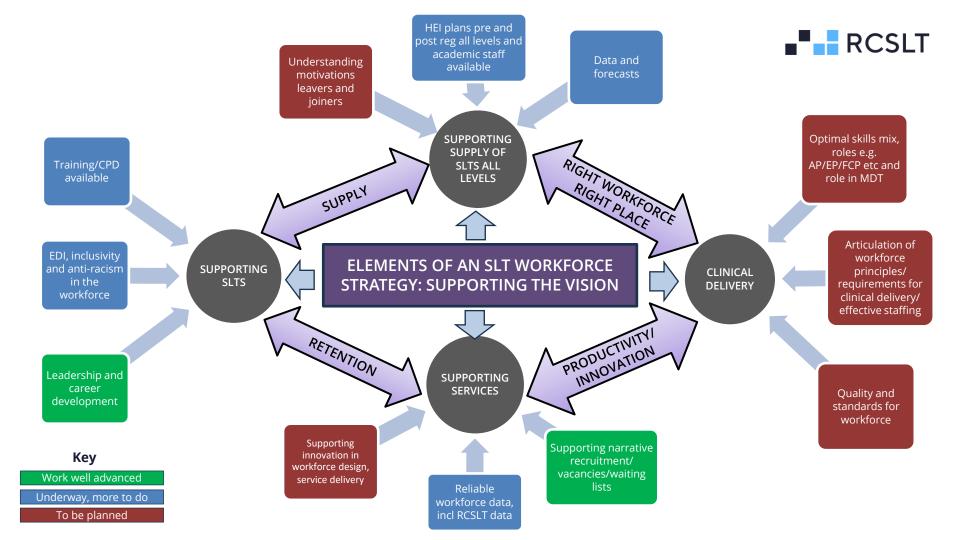
5. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT: We will support the growth and development of the speech and language therapy workforce

Our aspirations:

- Attracting a more diverse workforce that better reflects the society it serves, is sufficient in size to meet society's needs, competent to do the work needed, and has ample opportunities for progression.
- Strong and compassionate SLT leaders who are empowered to make the case for the resources and conditions needed by the profession.
- Effective multidisciplinary team working where the value of speech and language therapy is understood.
- . SLT apprenticeships are embedded, fuelling growth and greater diversity in the profession.
- More collaborative working between SLTs employed in different sectors.
- More support at every career stage, including greater flexibility within roles, and more training and development opportunities, especially for advanced practitioners and assistants.
- Research career paths made available for those who want them, and routes to collaboration established.
- A pre-registration curriculum and post-registration training that evolve to reflect our ambitions on EDI, as well as policy, research and technology developments.
- Better post-registration training and support for eating drinking and swallowing (EDS) management, with more EDS specialists to meet society's needs.

There is a policy space for RCSLT to articulate an SLT workforce strategy, to influence and set out what we think the workforce should look like, what size it should be and what it can deliver in future.

VISIT OUR TABLE IN THE BREAK AND TELL US YOUR IDEAS FOR INNOVATION IN THE WORKFORCE



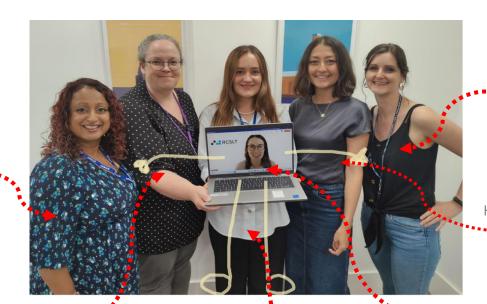


Guidance and resources



Who are the Professional Guidance team?

Mamta Beaver
Senior Project
Manager
(Accreditation
and Education)



Lorna Baxter
Senior Project
Manager
(Clinical and
Professional
Guidance)

Gemma Holmes
Head of Professional
Development
Programmes

Kathleen Graham

Senior Project Manager (Clinical and Professional Guidance)

Saskia Whittaker

Project Manager (Clinical and Professional Guidance) Gemma Jones (on screen)

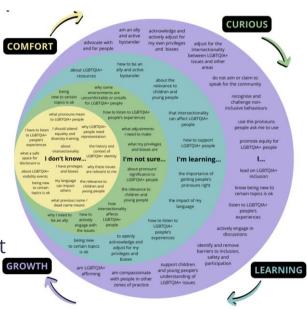
Professional Development Project Assistant



Supporting our colleagues

Recent guidance we have published:

- <u>Supporting disabled students</u> on a preregistration speech and language therapy courses, aimed at students, HEIs and practice educators.
- <u>Supporting SLTs with disabilities</u> in the workplace
- Working with the UK SLT Pride Network guidance and resources to support <u>LGBTQIA+</u> colleagues in the workplace
- Published guidance to support neurodivergent SLTs.
- New resource for <u>practice educators to help</u> <u>with supporting disabled students on</u> <u>placement.</u>



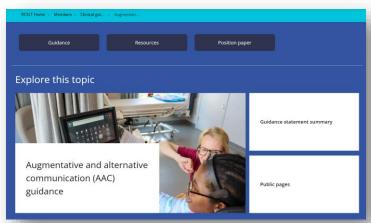
LGBTQIA+ affirming zones of practice



AAC

New <u>guidance</u> on augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) was published in May 2024. It was coproduced by SLTs, AAC users and their families/carers. As well as online guidance, there is a <u>resource list</u> available which signposts to other useful resources and evidence. A <u>position statement</u> has also been published aimed at policy makers, commissioners and service providers.

Our information for the <u>public</u> has also been updated for those who may benefit from increasing their understanding of AAC tools and techniques.





Autism



Our updated <u>guidance</u> on Autism was published in October 2023 and was coproduced by a working group of SLTs, autistic adults and parents of autistic children and young people.

It aims to be a useful resource for our members, providing guidance on evidencebased practice and encouraging critical thinking and self-reflection.

Alongside the guidance, there is a list of resources. There is also some new information for the public explaining the important role speech and language therapy can play in supporting autistic people.



Dementia

The new <u>guidance</u> was coproduced with service users with dementia and is an excellent overview of the communication and eating, drinking and swallowing difficulties that people with dementia may experience. There are several case studies and examples of varying SLT roles in this area.

The <u>dementia position paper</u> has useful information to support the unique role of the speech and language therapist working with people with dementia as well as the benefits of providing and risks of not providing an SLT service.





Eating and drinking with acknowledged risks

In the summer of 2023, a landmark case saw the RCSLT eating and drinking with acknowledged risk <u>guidance</u> be referenced in the court of appeals. This complicated case caused concern for many members. In May 2024 we held a webinar to discuss how eating and drinking with acknowledged risk has developed since our guidance was published and to support better understanding of the nuances of the 2023 case.

RCSLT

Eating and

16 May 2024

drinking with

acknowledged risks: 3 years on

The recorded 90-minute <u>webinar</u> is available via our YouTube channel and the themed questions with accompanying answers are in an FAQ document within our <u>resources page</u>.



Head and neck cancer

In December 2023, we updated our <u>head</u> and <u>neck cancer</u> member guidance, including a <u>position paper</u> and a new <u>laryngectomy</u> <u>competency framework</u>, as well as our information for the public.

These were all developed by a working group of expert SLTs. The updated information covers the treatment, impact, and risk factors for head and neck cancer and the role of speech and language therapy when working with patients with head and neck cancer.





Learning disabilities



In May 2023, we published updated <u>guidance</u> for SLTs working with people with learning disabilities alongside a list of useful <u>resources</u>.

For the <u>public</u>, there is information outlining the role of speech and language therapy, including in <u>Easy Read</u> format.

We also published a new <u>position paper</u> for SLTs to help them support children, young people and adults with learning disabilities to maximise communication potential, reduce risk associated with communication and dysphagia and enable inclusion and access to education, employment, healthcare as well as the wider community and society.



Long COVID

The new <u>guidance</u> provides a framework for understanding, assessing and treating individuals living with communication, swallowing, voice, and upper airway problems post COVID-19.

The <u>patient handbook</u> provides practical information that people can use to support self-management and is intended to be used before someone is referred to an SLT.

<u>Six new factsheets</u> cover the key symptoms of brain fog, stammering, swallowing, voice, throat changes, and reflux, and include advice on self-management.





Speech sound disorders

In February 2024, we updated our <u>guidance on</u> <u>speech sound disorders (SSD)</u>, including a new <u>position paper</u> on Childhood Apraxia of Speech.

Our updated guidance provides a useful resource for our members looking for information on the sub-types of SSD, best practice guidance, an introduction to the evidence base and a springboard for further continued professional development in this area.

Specific public guidance has also been published in our clinical information section for anyone concerned about a child's speech sound development or who has responsibility for looking after or providing services for children in the UK.





Thickened fluids

In March 2023 we produced a <u>position statement</u> on the use of thickened fluids in the management of people with swallowing difficulties.

This was followed by our <u>position paper</u> in January 2024 which gives an overview of the potential benefits and potential burdens associated with its use.

<u>Supporting resources</u> were developed to support the better understanding of the appropriate use of thickened fluids and to support person centred decision making.

This work highlights the need for clinicians to understand the research within their clinical specialism, to ensure the service user is making an informed decision, that everyone who is prescribed thickened fluids has a swallowing assessment first and those on longer term use should continue to be monitored by an appropriate professional.





Opportunities to get involved

Project	Approx. timing of consultation on draft guidance
Awake craniotomy	Feb 2025
Brain injury	Mar 2025
Cognitive communication disorder	April 2025
Curriculum review and placements	Feb 2025
Dysfluency (stammering & cluttering)	Feb 2025
Eating, drinking and swallowing	Nov 2024
Meeting the HCPC standards	May 2025
Parkinsons	Dec 2024
Pharyngeal high-resolution manometry	May 2025

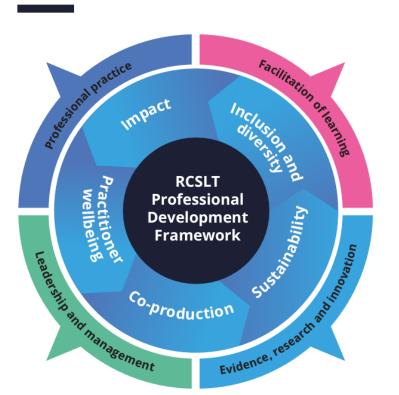




Professional development



Professional development framework



- Structure to map existing skills and experience, and thereby identify areas for development.
- For every stage of your career.
- To help you identify transferable skills when looking at new or future roles.
- For short-term and long-term career planning.

<u>rcslt.info/professional-</u> <u>development-framework</u>



Latest CPD resources

 56 CPD scenarios rcslt.info/ProfDevScenarios



 Elearning for practice educators about supporting students with disabilities: <u>rcslt.info/students-with-</u> disabilities-elearning



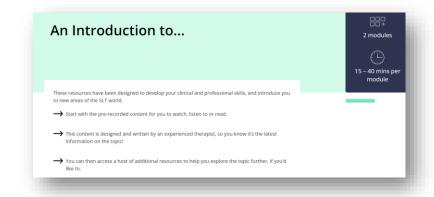






"An Introduction to..." series

- Designed primarily for students and NQPs, each module is a baselevel introduction to a specific topic.
- Each is written by an expert in the specific field or setting, and includes reflective questions and links to further learning.
- Available via the RCSLT CPD site: https://www.rcsltcpd.org.uk/courses/ an-intro-to/







Walkthroughs of assessments

- Designed primarily for students and NQPs, each module is an introduction to the use of a specific SLT assessment.
- Each module is written by an expert SLT 'on the ground', who is experienced in using the assessment.
- Features FAQs, videos of the assessment being run, and guides to scoring and interpretation.
- https://www.rcsltcpd.org.uk/courses/rcslthow-to-formal-assessments/







NHSE workforce, education & training

NHS England has provided funding for a programme of work to support the ongoing education reform priorities in allied health professions (AHPs), aiming to:

- Ensure an effective supply of AHPs, including SLTs
- Provide opportunities for career development
- Achieve improved work satisfaction and increased retention





Workforce, education & training programme

Key areas of focus include:

- Educator workforce
- Career pathways into speech and language therapy
- Curriculum review
- Support workforce
- NQP competency framework development
- Professional Development Framework embedding
- Career development
- Profession-specific focus on key priorities



Programme delivery snapshot

Programme delivery snapshot:

Total #: 22

3: Planning stages

16: Proceeding as planned

2: Completed

1: Delays & mitigations*

0: Delays & high risk

*Enhanced practice: finalising contract with Coventry Uni (imminent completion)





Research & Outcomes



Who are the Research & Outcomes team?





Charli Nixon
Project Assistant
(Outcomes)

Gemma Jones
Project Co-ordinator
(Research)

Jess Lane Research Manager (maternity cover)

Sarah LambertResearch and Outcomes
Officer



(maternity leave)

Outcomes and Informatics Manager

Kathryn Moyse



Existing RCSLT resources ...

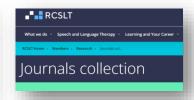
























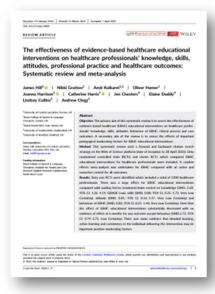


Recent projects ...



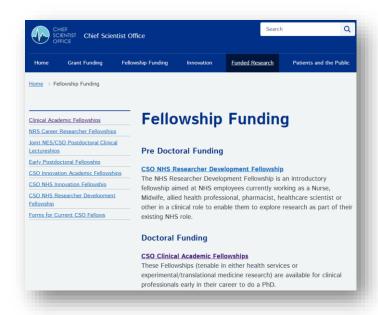








Other resources ...









Outcomes and informatics



RCSLT Online Outcome Tool

Ongoing development of the ROOT



Using ROOT data

Awareness raising and potential for research



SNOMED CT project

Working on consensus for diagnosis terms



Opportunities to get involved

- Contribute to phase 2 of the <u>DLD research priority setting partnership</u>
- SNOMED and clinical terminology to find out more email sarah.lambert@rcslt.org
- Find out more about ROOT by registering, getting in touch or coming along to one of our lunchtime drop-ins: www.root.org/welcome

We look forward to meeting some of you at the EBP workshop today.





Clinical Excellence Networks



CEN Development Project





Why join a CEN?

The RCSLT views CENs as an integral and invaluable channel to access CPD.

RCSLT members are encouraged to join at least one CEN relevant to their clinical or professional practice or area of special interest.





Why join a Clinical Excellence Network (CEN)?



Unlock exclusive access:

to CPD events, webinars, and resources



Network and collaborate:

with experienced colleagues for valuable peer support



Shape the future:

by contributing to influencing, research and professional guidance



Boost your career:

with support for growth and development



Stay connected:

with RCSLT and key stakeholders to power your professional journey



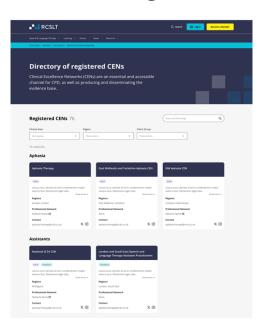






How to find a CEN

www.rcslt.org/members/get-involved/clinical-excellence-networks/



Search the CEN Directory:

- clinical area
- region
- client group (adult/paediatric/both)
- format (online/in person/hybrid)

Contact the CEN directly:

- membership process
- fees
- event dates
- communications platform



Opportunities to get involved

- 45 UK-wide CENs
 plus
 33 CENs operating regionally across
 England
- Attend individual events
- Join as a regular member
- Become a committee member







Questions









Refreshment break











Workshops









Workshop sessions

Time		Workshop	Room
12.05	1	Embedding an evidence-based approach to practice in your working day	Main room
12.05	2	Embracing neurodiversity in the workforce	Derby
13.00	3	Waiting lists, workload and wellbeing	Lancaster
13.00	4	Support for and partnership with SLTs in the independent sector	Chester
14.30	1	Developing your career through enhanced and advanced practice and other extended roles	Main room
-	2	SLTs and tackling health inequalities	Derby
15.25	3	Mapping your professional development journey	Lancaster
	4	Supporting you with your adult workforce challenges	Fairclough







Lunch and Networking

Available for questions and networking in the Alexandra Foyer:

- **RCSLT** colleagues
- **ASLTIP** colleagues
- **DP** Medical







X #RCSLTConnectEngland





Workshops









Workshop sessions

Time		Workshop	Room
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	4	Supporting you with your adult workforce challenges	Fairclough







Thanks and close

Irma Donaldson

Chair, RCSLT







Evaluation









Networking



