

## Live Questions:

### 1. Is there funding available for master's students?

- [Speech and Language Therapy University Courses - Funding - UK](#)
- [Student Finance England \(SFE\)](#)
- [Student Finance Wales \(SFW\)](#)
- [Student Awards Agency for Scotland \(SAAS\)](#)
- [Student Finance Northern Ireland \(SFNI\)](#)
- [NI Direct Government Services: Health professional courses](#)
- [The Funding Clinic: Studying in Northern Ireland](#)
- [NHS Learning Support Fund \(LSF\) | NHSBSA](#)
- [Parental Support | NHSBSA](#)
- [Exceptional Support Fund \(ESF\) | NHSBSA](#)
- [NHS Wales Bursary – Student finance info for studying in Wales](#)
- Scholarships and bursaries – please check with the university you are applying to

### 2. What universities offer postgraduate courses?

[UCAS Speech and Language Therapy Courses](#)

### 3. Can you do a masters apprenticeship?

- No, not at the moment.

### 4. For students who already have an undergraduate degree, is it more worthwhile completing an MSc in SLT rather than the BSc? Is there much of a difference?

- An MSc program is typically shorter, taking about two years to complete, compared to a BSc which usually takes three to four years. Both MSc and BSc programs cover the necessary clinical and theoretical knowledge to become a qualified SLT. However, the MSc is often more intensive and may include more advanced coursework and research components.

### 5. Are there any postgraduate degrees in SLT that can be studied part-time? (Ideally near Bristol!)

- University of the West of England (UWE Bristol): UWE offers a part-time MSc in Speech and Language Therapy. This program is designed for those who wish to balance their studies with other commitments.
- University of Bristol: While the University of Bristol does not offer a specific part-time MSc in SLT, they do have related part-time postgraduate programs in areas like psychology and neuroscience, which can complement your SLT studies.

### 6. Would you have to attend university during the apprenticeship or is it remote?

- You would need to attend university, but you can check with the university you are applying what their course delivery mode is.

7. **How to return to the SLT path in the UK if I hold a master's degree from abroad (Ukraine)?**
  - Speak to a university that offers an SLT course and they will be able to advise.
8. **How did you find the jump from undergraduate to postgraduate study, especially after taking a break during your studies?**
  - The break allowed me to gain valuable real-world experience and a fresh perspective, which ultimately enriched my postgraduate studies.
9. **If you have experience working in a hospital environment with a speech and language therapist, are there other options to become a therapist without having a full-time degree?**
  - You need to have either an undergraduate degree in SLT (which could be an apprenticeship UG degree) or a postgraduate degree in SLT. Speak to the universities that offer SLT apprenticeship courses; they will be able to advise whether they can accept relevant experience for one of their apprenticeship routes.
10. **How useful do you think doing linguistics as an undergraduate is before doing a postgraduate in speech and language therapy?**
  - It is very useful. Linguistics provides a strong foundation in understanding the structure and function of language, which is crucial for diagnosing and treating speech and language disorders.
11. **Is there a postgraduate course at Cardiff and/or Wrexham University?**
  - Yes, both Cardiff Metropolitan University and Wrexham University offer postgraduate courses in Speech and Language Therapy (SLT).
12. **The BSc (Hons) degree at Cardiff is accredited with HCPC, but does a graduating student also need to register with the RCSLT to get more job opportunities, and does the university facilitate this in any way?**
  - While HCPC registration is mandatory for practicing as an SLT, registering with the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) is highly recommended.
13. **Would a potential student who worked as a qualified teacher and holds an education degree gained over 10 years ago be expected to show evidence of recent study?**
  - This will depend on the university's criteria. Please check with them.
14. **You mentioned BTECs - what subjects are recommended?**
  - English Language, Psychology, Applied Science, for example.
15. **Do you have any advice for writing a personal statement when applying to university?**
  - Show your passion, highlight any relevant experience, and have it proofread. Be honest and concise.

**16. Would I be able to go to my employer to inquire about a SALT apprenticeship? I currently work as a Speech and Language Assistant on the ELSEC project.**

- Yes, you can definitely approach your employer to inquire about a Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) apprenticeship.

**17. What job would be best to have to qualify for an apprenticeship? I am an early years worker in a family hub and deal with speech and language a lot, but my employer has declined my request to do the apprenticeship.**

- Please check this website for [Speech language therapy assistant jobs in the UK](#)

**18. Do you apply for the degree apprenticeship the same way you would for a regular degree?**

- You apply for a degree apprenticeship in the same way you apply for a normal job. You'll need to submit an application to the recruiting employer. Employers advertise degree apprenticeships throughout the year, and there is no application cycle like there is with university applications. The vacancy will state when the application deadline is and when the apprenticeship is due to start. You cannot apply directly to the university for a degree apprenticeship. To apply for an apprenticeship, you first need to find one that you are interested in applying for.

**19. I am a 35-year-old with 4 children. I have a level 2 childcare qualification with 12 years of experience working with children. I am now working as a teaching assistant in a school and have just completed an Elklan course level 3. I would love to do a speech and language course but can't go full-time. How do I go about this in Wales?**

- Please inquire with universities in Wales that offer SLT courses.

**20. I have an undergraduate SLT degree (graduated in 2004) and worked for just under a year as an SLT. In 2018, I graduated with a PGDE in Primary Teaching. Currently, I am working as a Primary Teacher. What are my pathway options to return to SLT?**

- Since you have previously worked as an SLT, you will need to re-register with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) if your registration has lapsed. Engage in CPD activities to update your knowledge and skills.

**21. Does this field always require a university degree?**

- Yes, it does.

**22. Do colleges offer apprenticeships for SLT?**

- Currently, only universities in England offer SLT apprenticeships.  
[Apprenticeship \(England only\)](#)

**23. Do you offer work experience (WEX) for students in schools (Yr 11/12/13)?**

**What work experience would be beneficial for this role? What entry-level job experiences would you recommend before applying for post-grad opportunities?**

- Volunteering with a speech and language therapist, working with children, in healthcare settings, charity work, for example.

**24. I am struggling to gain a work experience placement in speech and language therapy. Do you have any recommendations on how to gain a placement?**

- Reach out to local schools, hospitals, and care homes to see if they need volunteers. Look for internships or placements through universities, charities, or community groups. Use platforms like LinkedIn to connect with professionals in the field. Consider asking for work experience in private clinics that offer speech therapy services.

**26. Do you have any advice on how to gain experience within the youth justice system as a SaLT?**

- Reach out to youth justice organizations, probation services, or juvenile detention canthers to see if they need volunteers. This may also be of interest: [Working in a justice setting | RCSLT](#).

**27. Is it possible to shadow a speech and language therapist without being a student? I was under the impression only students could do this for confidentiality reasons.**

- Yes, it is possible to shadow a speech and language therapist (SLT) even if you're not a student, though it can be more challenging due to confidentiality and privacy concerns. Every hospital/service or private clinic will have their own rules and policies.

**28. I understand that SLTs work with a wide range of age groups and I was wondering what sort of work an SLT might do with newborns?**

- It is mainly these:
  - **Feeding and Swallowing:** SLTs assess and manage feeding and swallowing difficulties in newborns, ensuring they can feed safely and effectively.
  - **Early Communication:** They support early communication development, helping parents interact with their babies in ways that promote language skills.

**29. What classes should I take in school if I'm thinking of being an SLT?**

- Biology, English Language, Maths, Health and Social Care, Psychology, for example.

30. **Currently, I am studying Allied Health Professions (a SWAP course provided at North East Scotland College). I am a mature student returning to education. I have been working abroad and assisted in teaching English as a second language via CELTA, and this drew me to speech and language therapy. Is there any advice that can be given to me to enhance my UCAS application to university as I have now found that the AHP SWAP course won't be accepted by all universities?**

- **Highlight Relevant Experience:** Emphasize your experience teaching English as a second language via CELTA. This demonstrates your skills in communication, language development, and working with diverse populations.
- **Gain Additional Experience:** Seek out volunteer or shadowing opportunities with SLTs, particularly in settings that align with your interests. This can strengthen your application by showing your commitment and understanding of the field.
- **Tailor Your Personal Statement:** Clearly articulate why you want to pursue SLT, how your background has prepared you for this career, and what you hope to achieve. Mention any specific skills or experiences that make you a strong candidate.

31. **Are there any qualifications or accredited courses other than the degree if I want to work in speech and language in a school setting?**

- You will always need a degree in SLT if you want to work as an SLT. You could look into working as an SLT Assistant. [Speech language therapy assistant jobs in the UK](#)

32. **Would a potential student who worked as a qualified teacher and holds an education degree which was gained over 10 years ago be expected to show evidence of recent study?**

- Many universities do expect mature students to show evidence of recent study, especially if their previous qualifications were obtained over 10 years ago, but it is best to speak to the university.

33. **Can you advise on websites to find apprenticeship vacancies?**

- There are only a few SLT apprenticeship vacancies. [Apprenticeship training courses](#) or [Job search results - NHS Jobs](#)