



Anne Gamble

**Head of Speech and Language
Therapy Services
Western Health & Social Care Trust**

What does your current role involve?

I managed all the speech and language therapy services (adults & paediatrics) for a large rural HSC Trust in Northern Ireland until April 2017, when I retired. I am currently involved with the Northern Ireland Stroke Association, where I sit on the committee.

What was your first role after graduating?

Two days a week in a community clinic working with all types of speech and language delay & disorder. Three days a week in a school for moderate learning difficulties. There had been no previous service to this school

At what stage did you decide which area of the profession you wanted to work in?

After a number of years working with children with special needs I developed a paediatric dysphagia service and specialised in this area.

How did you progress from your first role to your current job?

Generalist clinician - Clinical Specialist – Deputy manager – Team Leader of the Trust Wide Paediatric Learning and Physical Disability Team – Manager of Trust wide Speech and Language Therapy Services

How have you used CPD to help you progress in your career?

I attended a number of clinical courses as well as management and leadership courses. Supported by reading articles, journals and books. Lectured on post-grad modules. Presented at conferences. Chaired many clinical and management groups. Used opportunities to network and influence.

My advice to students looking to get into my current area of work:

Be an active member of RCSLT and local Hub. Learn from others who are in an area you would like to work in. use your initiative and be proactive. Make the most of CPD opportunities as they arise.

Contact me: 07921 269 920