



**Katie Chadd**

## **Research Support Officer Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists**

### **What does your job involve?**

I get to be involved with different projects at the RCSLT including our digital transformation, research priorities setting project and offer my clinical knowledge to make recommendations on other initiatives such as competency frameworks and learning projects.

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

I started this job in October, after seeing it advertised in the Bulletin. I was unsure if I should apply because I was a NQP but I got in touch with the RCSLT and they encouraged me to submit an application.

### **How did you prepare for interviews?**

I wasn't sure what to expect as it was brand new role, so I focused most my preparation on understanding how the company worked and it's main mission and goals in its strategic plan.

### **What does your typical day look like?**

My time is split largely between managing enquiries from SLTs who want to know more about getting involved with research, finding and promoting research activity on social media and planning work for upcoming research and development events and projects, such as the research priorities settings project.

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

Yes, in my previous job as a research intern I was able to sign off most of my competencies and in this role my supervisor is helping me complete the rest. Everyone has been really helpful in achieving this in the less conventional settings I've work in.

### **My advice to students:**

Think outside the box when deciding where to apply, remember there are alternatives to traditional route. Don't be afraid to make contacts and ask questions, and don't be intimidated by the 'NQP status' - use it to your advantage instead!

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