

Specialist speech and language therapist for children and young people who have a hearing loss in Scotland: person specification

The specialist SLT is required to have additional post qualification training, skills and experience to deal competently with this client group.

The additional post qualification, knowledge, skills and experience are detailed below.

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| <p>Post Qualification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing CPD evidenced by attendance at and learning from short, specialist postgraduate courses/independent learning activities to maintain and develop own specialist knowledge and expertise in deafness. For example, phonology assessment, working with deaf people, specific conditions associated with deafness such as auditory neuropathy, amplification devices, and sign language |
| <p>Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Substantial postgraduate experience of working as an SLT Experience of working with a wide range of children and young people with a hearing loss Experience of working collaboratively with other agencies, particularly education colleagues in hearing impairment (HI) service and relevant partner agencies in health (e.g. audiology) |
| <p>Knowledge</p> <p>Detailed knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Different types of hearing loss, aetiology and possible implications for individuals Audiological tests available and understanding of the findings and implications for the individual Acoustic phonetics to inform intervention and management decisions <p>Knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spoken language (English or language of the home), Sign (British Sign Language), Sign Supported English and bilingualism Augmentative communication systems such as Cued Speech, Sign Supported English and Signed English Communication strategies that support communication between deaf and hearing people Typical developmental patterns for deaf children Deaf culture Current research evidence for this population and its application for service improvement How hearing technology works <p>Understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The effects of environmental noise on hearing/listening |

Skills

- Non-verbal communication including use of sign
- Practical management of hearing technology
- Practical logistics of adapting speech and language assessments for children with a hearing loss
- Use of family-centred intervention techniques, including making necessary adaptations to those designed for hearing children
- Differential diagnosis between deafness and developmental language disorder (DLD – formally known as specific language impairment), autistic spectrum disorder and auditory neuropathy
- Adaptation of speech and language expectations and objectives in the context of the type and degree of hearing loss
- Advanced transcription of atypical speech patterns, including non-segmental features

The decision as to whether certain additional criteria is designated as **essential** or **desirable** will be dependent on the specific needs of the post; e.g. level of sign language required.