

Community Paediatric SLT London North West University Healthcare Trust (NHS)



Rebecca Simmons

What does your job involve?

I work across the mainstream school and pre-school community service. The children I work with are aged between 1-11, with a range of SLCN, e.g. speech sounds, language disorder and selective mutism. I work in the community clinics, nurseries, pre-schools and schools.

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

I started my job on 20th August, 2018. I found it on the NHS jobs site in March 2018, and had my interview at the end of April 2018.

How did you prepare for interviews?

I researched the Trust values and recent developments in the Trust and their SLT service. I made notes on my relevant experience and example cases and booked a practice interview.

What does your typical day look like?

On a school day, I will typically complete lesson observations to support staff to incorporate whole class based strategies and support my clients in their lessons. I then work with children individually/in groups, with their TA joining in/observing in order to complete carry over. I then write all my notes!
On a pre-school day, I typically run groups (children and parents) with one of the associate practitioners, then see children for individual blocks of therapy – almost always with an interpreter.

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

I have weekly supervision, either individually (managerial support with my line manager/clinical supervisor) or in a pair with another NQP (professional support). I have the opportunity to discuss my competencies during these sessions.

My advice to students:

Interviews...

- Look the part and be confident – fake it 'til you make it!
- Choose example cases that are relevant to a range of themes so that you don't have to prepare loads!

Starting the job...

- Be proactive, but if you aren't sure ASK

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