

Biographies



Kamini Gadhok MBE

Kamini Gadhok MBE is the CEO of the RCSLT

Kamini has been chief executive at the RCSLT since December 2000. The professional body for speech and language therapists in the UK, the RCSLT provides leadership for the profession and supports improvements to services for people with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN).

Kamini's primary role is to help deliver service change by building strong partnerships with key stakeholders across government, charities, other professional bodies and the regulator. Over the years, she has been involved in a number of government initiatives and policy developments. This has included being an adviser to the Bercow review of services for children with SLCN, which continues to inform and impact on key government policies.

Kamini received an MBE in June 2009 for services to the allied health professions.

As a former speech and language therapist, Kamini had direct patient care responsibilities for 14 years and has experience of working with a range of client groups (children, older people, people with learning difficulties) across all ages in hospitals, community health centres, special schools and mainstream schools.

Prior to her move to London in 1997, Kamini had three roles in Nottingham Community Health (NHS Trust): as a locality manager, with responsibility for meeting the health needs of local populations across three inner city health areas; as locality coordinator for speech and language therapy services; and as specialist adviser (bilingualism) leading the development of services for people for whom English is an additional language. In this role, Kamini established the Asian bilingual co-worker service, the first of its kind in the country.

In 1997, Kamini became ethnic health projects coordinator for the NHS and was seconded to the Department of Health to set up the Race Equality Unit, where she was section head until 2000.



Derek Munn

Derek Munn is the director of policy and public affairs at the RCSLT

Derek joined the RCSLT in 2010 with a remit covering policy, public affairs, campaigning and the RCSLT's work in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. He has worked on the Giving Voice awareness campaign, influencing legislation, and the profession's response to the economic environment, as well as the organisation's strategy and regional member engagement. He led general election influencing in 2015 for the federation of all twelve allied health professional bodies.

Derek's previous role was as director of public affairs for equality charity Stonewall. With an academic background in linguistics, he worked for many years in politics, including as Special Adviser to the First Minister of Scotland (where he held the health brief) as well as in the field of homelessness. Derek's voluntary experience includes chairing a housing charity and the Scottish council of environment group WWF.



Marian McCormick

Marian McCormick is a principal lecturer at Canterbury Christ Church University and University of Greenwich

After 25 years as a practising SLT in the UK, Australia and New Zealand, Marian joined the speech and language therapy team at Canterbury Christ Church University in 2006 when work started to validate the PGDip speech and language therapy programme. She was Programme Director between 2008 and 2013.

Following this period, Marian continued developing the first year modules in the pre-registration curriculum on the programme and also became an academic link tutor for the BSc. Speech and Language Sciences in Athens. She became a principal lecturer (learning and teaching) in 2017 and won a HEFCE funded grant to develop a tool for supporting students preparing for clinical placements. Marian's interests are in learning and teaching; language and literacy development; supporting parents; clinical linguistics, and integrating reflective practice into speech and language therapy education. She currently takes a lead on recruitment, retention and progression at Level 4.

In 2015 Marian co-edited a book entitled *Speech and Language Therapy and Professional Identity; Challenging Received Wisdom*. J and R Press: Guildford.



Berenice Napier

Berenice Napier is a policy adviser at the RCSLT

Berenice joined the policy and public affairs team at the RCSLT in June 2016 and since then has focussed on developing the RCSLT's public health webpages, developing policy on higher education and apprenticeships, and NHS strategic issues. Prior to this Berenice had a long career as a civil servant in the Department for Business and Skills. She was involved in producing White and Green Papers and consultations, developing legislation and represented the UK in European negotiations across different policy areas including higher and further education and consumer and competition policy.