

## Cat Proom

Health and Care Professions Council number: SL16692

Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists  
registration number: 0022406



### Personal Profile

Since qualifying in 2005, I have had a wide range of experience, which has fed into my current specialism within Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) and complex communication needs. I love working with individuals and their families/those in their environment to enable them to communicate to their full potential.

I am passionate about providing speech and language therapy input that is person centred; to me that means that all involved know and share the goals of what we are doing and why we are doing it, that the experience is fun/engaging/motivating and that the outcome has a practical effect on the person's communication.

I support people within the Bristol area and proximity.

### Professional Qualifications

2001 – 2005 - BSc 1st Class Honours from City University London

2014 - Masters Module Manchester Metropolitan University – Evidence Based Assessment in Complex Communication Needs

2009 - Post Graduate Assessment and Management of Adults with Dysphagia.

### Training

- Regular attendance at Clinical Excellence Network (CEN) meetings – I was previously the treasurer of the Computers in Therapy CEN
- Attendance at Communication Matters training and workshops – including Where Next for
- People with Cognitive Disabilities and Electronic Assistive Technology and Symbolisation Towards Literacy
- I maintain regular updates and training from AAC suppliers, including Smartbox, Liberator, Tobii Dynavox, Techcess and others
- Introduction to PODD (Pragmatic Organisation Dynamic Display)
- Makaton Enhanced Training
- Communication Matters Conferences
- Talking Mats Foundation Training
- Parent Child Interaction Training

ATtherapy Head Office  
Chambers Business Centre  
1 Chapel Road  
Oldham  
OL8 4QQ  
0161 494 6489  
[Cat@attherapy.co.uk](mailto:Cat@attherapy.co.uk)



-Elklan Training – training to be able to train others in Elklan speech and language training packages

## Work Experience

### ATtherapy – Highly Specialist Associate Speech and Language Therapist February 2020- Present

At ATtherapy my role is to support clients with a wide range of complex needs specifically utilising my skills within AAC. I also work within the medical legal sector and support clients with brain injuries

### AAC WEST (Augmentative and Alternative Communication – West of England Specialist Team)

April 2012 – Present

Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist

This is an NHS specialist multi-disciplinary service providing assessment and provision of communication aids for people across the South West, and providing support and training for other SLT services. I work with people of all ages with a range of diagnoses affecting their ability to communicate verbally. Within this role, I supervise other therapists and assistants, manage projects and write and deliver training on AAC to SLTs across the South West. I have been in this post since April 2012.

### Community Learning Difficulties Team Bristol Community Health (2010 –2012)

Specialist Speech and Language Therapist

Multi-disciplinary work with people with learning difficulties; communication, dysphagia and training. In this role I worked on goal focused episodes of care to develop communication skills of individuals and those around them, for example, introducing Objects of Reference, implementing high and low tech AAC, implementing and training in Intensive Interaction, practising communication skills in real life contexts and training teams in different aspects of communication. This role also included assessing and managing dysphagia risk, writing and implementing training days on dysphagia for support staff

### Disabled Adults Resource Team (DART) Bristol Community Health (May 2008 – April 2012)

Specialist Speech and Language Therapist

Multi-disciplinary work with adults of working age (16-65) with physical impairments; communication and dysphagia. In this role I worked with a range of adults, most with neurological

ATtherapy Head Office  
Chambers Business Centre  
1 Chapel Road  
Oldham  
OL8 4QQ  
0161 494 6489  
[Cat@attherapy.co.uk](mailto:Cat@attherapy.co.uk)



diagnoses or cerebral palsy. In the DART team we worked on the client's goals, this work included working with individuals to develop strategies to manage or therapy to improve dysarthric speech, aphasia therapy, total communication training, assessment and implementation of high and low tech AAC and the assessment and management of dysphagia

#### [Inpatient Acute SLT Service North Bristol Trust \(Nov 2008 – 2010\)](#) Speech and Language Therapist

Providing dysphagia assessment and treatment, and communication support and therapy for inpatients at Frenchay and Southmead Hospitals.

#### [Community Child Health Service United Hospitals Bristol NHS Trust \(Nov 2005 – Nov 2008\)](#) Speech and Language Therapist

A mix of community clinic, children's centre and school work with children aged 2 – 11. These roles were with preschool and school aged children with speech and language delay or disorder, they included 'first port of call' assessment, direct therapy, Parent Child Interaction therapy, running Eklan courses and supporting children in schools termly by training teaching assistants and reviewing progress.

#### **Additional Skills**

- **Technology and equipment** – I have up to date knowledge and experience of a wide range of hardware, software, apps and alternative access methods for communication and computer access
- **Building skills** – I draw on my 14 years of experience as an SLT to provide assessment and intervention for people to allow them to build the skills required to achieve their goal(s)
- **Training** – I am a skilled trainer with experience of training a range of different people including family members, teachers, support staff and therapists
- **Team working and the environment** – I work with people to support and affect change for the individual, their communication partners and the environment
- **Accessible information** – I always aim to communicate in a way that is accessible to the person/people I am communicating with
- **Empowering and enabling** – I will always put the person's/family's needs and perspective at the centre of my work and ensure that we all have shared goals including an openness regarding expectations
- **Continuing Professional Development** – I maintain up to date CPD; attending courses, reading and applying new research, keeping up to date with new software and equipment, taking part in online forums and attending Clinical Excellence Network meetings.

ATtherapy Head Office  
Chambers Business Centre  
1 Chapel Road  
Oldham  
OL8 4QQ  
0161 494 6489  
[Cat@attherapy.co.uk](mailto:Cat@attherapy.co.uk)

