

# Kerry Higginbottom

Health and Care Professions Council number: SLO4565

Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists  
registration number: RC0016019



## Personal Profile

I am passionate about facilitating the communication skills of all children from birth through to adulthood. I believe that all children should have their speech, language and communication skills supported and developed in order to achieve socially, emotionally and academically.

I have worked with a mix of age ranges, both school and pre-school aged, in mainstream, special school and community settings, specialising for a long period of time in the pre-school years.

My work with children with complex needs sparked my interest in AAC and a total communication approach and as a result, was part of a multi-disciplinary team for The Communication Aid project.

I have supported children using a variety of techniques including low and high tech AAC, social stories, intensive interaction and a wide range of interventions for speech and language such as colourful semantics. I enjoy working with children both individually and in groups, for which I have extensive experience.

Training is an area I particularly enjoy, both with parents and staff, and have provided a wide range of training in both specific communication facilitation approaches such as total communication and in general techniques for supporting speech, language and communication.

## Professional Qualifications

1996-2000 University Of Manchester: BSC (Hons) Speech and Language Pathology and Therapy

## Training Received:

- Picture Exchange Communication System (Pyramid Education)
- Certificate in Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ACE Centre North)

ATtherapy  
36 Park Rd  
Romiley  
SK6 4AR  
0161 494 6489  
[kerry@attherapy.co.uk](mailto:kerry@attherapy.co.uk)



- Webster Stratton positive behaviour (Sure Start)
- Return to Practice –Speech and Language Therapy (Birmingham City University)
- Word Aware (Word Aware)
- Hanen (The Hanen Centre)
- Intensive Interaction (Together Trust)
- Attendance at ACE Centre Network day
- Tobii Dynavox software overview training.
- Talk Tools (DVD)

### Training Provided:

- I have planned and implemented training sessions for education and childcare staff on general speech, language and communication development and strategies for supporting this. These sessions have ranged from short after school sessions to full day staff training and courses run over six weeks.
- Total communication approach training including a range of AAC run for education staff in schools.
- Training school staff in ways to develop children’s vocabulary throughout the day.
- I have run training sessions over a number of weeks for parents whose children have speech, language and communication difficulties.

### Work experience

[ATtherapy. 2018 – present](#)

Speech and language Therapist

I work in special and mainstream schools and undertake home visits to provide intervention and assessment for pre-school and school aged children.

[Self-employed/franchisee-Jo Jingles 2007- 2013](#)

Launched and ran a highly successful business providing music and movement classes to babies, toddlers and Pre-school Children.

[Rochdale PCT/Sure Start Middleton 2003 - 2007](#)

Senior/specialist Speech and Language Therapist.

Lead therapist working within a multi-disciplinary team providing preventative and targeted intervention for pre-school children in the community, mainstream settings and a nursery for children with complex needs.

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### Rochdale PCT/Rochdale MBC 2002-2003

Secondment as part of the above job for two and a half days a week to the Area SENCO and Curriculum support team providing training and support for staff in pre-school, nursery and foundation stage settings

### Rochdale PCT 2000 - 2003

Paediatric Speech and Language Therapist

A generalist post based in community clinics, special, mainstream and pre-schools and a multi-disciplinary team providing AAC support and assessment for children with complex needs.

### Additional Skills

I have worked for Twinkleboost, a not for profit organisation, since 2016 and continue to do so alongside my work at ATtherapy.

I work within early years settings with both staff and children to boost all children's communication skills in addition to providing whole staff training sessions. This is an area I am thrilled to be involved in as I strongly believe that all children should have access to the support they need for their speech, language and communication skills.

I have completed my Level 3 CACHE Award in Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools (QCF) and volunteered in a primary school for a day a week for two years, allowing me a better understanding of the classroom environment, the curriculum and the educational system.

I attend training run by The National Autistic Society and local Additional Needs Team providing strategies for supporting children and teenagers with ASC which I believe provides me with a wider approach to supporting children with ASC.

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