

Nicola Hayton

Health and Care Professions Council number: SL02351

Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists registration number: RC0011135



Personal Profile

I have been a speech and language therapist for over 25 years and I have always had an element of AAC in my roles. I have worked in a number of areas including specialist colleges, learning disability services and long-term neurological conditions including brain injury. I take a holistic approach to assessment and communication as I believe that this is the most appropriate strategy to support people with complex difficulties. I have experience in working within a multidisciplinary team and putting strategies into place to work across various settings.

I have also had the opportunity to work in the wider area of assistive technology including assessing and supporting the setup of environmental controls, communication aids, alternative access methods and computer access. I take a person centred approach and joint planning to ensure that the technology works for the person and meet their needs to enhance their independence and control of their world.

Professional Qualifications

MSc 2002 to 2004 Manchester University In Profound Learning Disabilities and Multi-Sensory Impairment

BSc (Hons) 1991 to 1995 CIHE (now Cardiff University) 2:1 degree In Speech and Language Therapy

ABC Level 3 Certificate 2009 Stockport College In Counselling Skills

Post Basic Dysphagia 1998 Manchester Metropolitan University

Training Provided:

- Presentations at Communication Matters Conference
- Presented on the Speech and Language Therapy undergraduate course
- Presentation at the annual MND study day and at condition specific special interest groups
- Training on data protection and management
- Formal and informal training on the use and management of assistive technology systems and on aided and unaided AAC strategies

ATtherapy
Chambers Business Centre
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- Speech and language therapy student placements

Training Received:

- AAC software: Grid 3, Tobii Dynovox systems such as Communicator,
- Environmental control systems such as Possum, Steeper, Housemate.
- Annual attendance at Communication Matters conference
- MND research study days
- Open University Course on Multidisciplinary working in MND
- Attendance at AAC CEN
- Information governance
- Safeguarding training
- Intensive Interaction
- Symbol computer systems such as Boardmaker, Writing with Symbols and Communicate in Print
- Makaton

Work Summary

[ATtherapy - November 2019 – Present](#)

ATtherapy Assistive Technology Consultant

I am currently working at ATtherapy as an Assistive Technology Consultant supporting individuals with a wide range of AT requirements including environmental control. I am working with ATtherapy alongside my current role.

[Sheffield Health and Social Care NHS Trust – January 2009 – present](#)

Assistive Technologist - Clinical Specialist

Provide the specialist and local assistive technology service for adults in Sheffield. This includes management of referrals, assessment, management of equipment, installation, training and ongoing support as required. I work alongside an assistant and in collaboration with therapists across the city to cover the needs of the clients.

[Seashell Trust - Team Lead - September 2015 to August 2019](#)

Managed the therapy and nursing service. This included developing the structure of the services, supervisions and policies for the teams.

Speech and Language Therapist - September 2014 to August 2015

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Provided part of the speech and language therapy service for the student's with complex communication needs attending the college and residential services.

Langdon College

Speech and Language Therapist - April 2007 to July 2015

Provided the speech and language therapy service for the student's with communication needs attending the college and residential services.

Bridge College

Speech and Language Therapist and Speech and Language Therapy Team Lead - June 2000 to January 2008

Provided the speech and language therapy service for the student's with communication needs attending the college and residential services. This included a range of student's using communication aid systems and computer access. The role also involved management of the speech and language therapy team and as a Makaton Tutor the role of training the inhouse staff and external services.

Manchester Community Learning Disability Service

Speech and Language Therapist - February 1998 to June 2000

Provided the speech and language therapy service for adults with learning disabilities in South Manchester. This included low and high tech AAC.

Wigan and Leigh NHS FT

Speech and Language Therapist - February 1998 to June 2000

Generalist Speech and Language Therapist

Working across a range of settings such as community clinics, adult learning disabilities and hospital outpatient service.

Additional Skills

I am enthusiastic about the use of technology and believe in sharing this knowledge and understanding with other professionals to empower them. I have worked with a range of fellow professions and I believe in a collaborative approach to the implementation of communication strategies. I believe that I have a professional, calm and friendly manner that fosters a good working relationship.

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