

Lois Thomson

Health and Care Professions Council number: SL32908

Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists
registration number: RC003345



Personal Profile

I am an innovative and autonomous Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist with a passion for supporting individuals with both communication and swallowing difficulties. I am a motivated therapist that provides the best possible care for my clients, and I adopt a person centered and holistic approach to my sessions. I strive to improve an individual's quality of life through delivering highly skilled assessments and therapy as well as supporting and training the individual's family network.

I very much enjoy working as part of an MDT to share knowledge and experience and ensure best practice to promote person centered care. I have experience presenting at conferences such as Communication Matters and attend regular Clinical Excellence Networks (CENs) including the West Midlands AAC CEN and the South West Brain Injury CEN. The world of AAC and technology fascinates me, and I seek to find new and innovative solutions for everyone I meet. I currently support people within the Midlands and South West area.

Professional Qualifications

UCL - MSc Speech and Language Sciences
2012 – 2014

University of Wales Institute Cardiff – BA (Hons) Business Studies
2003 – 2006

Post Graduate Dysphagia
2017

Training

- Makaton and BSL
- Talking Mats
- PECS
- Intensive Interaction

ATtherapy Head Office
Chambers Business Centre
Chapel Rd, Oldham. OL8 4QQ
lois@ATtherapy.co.uk



- Grid 3, Snap and Core, LLL, Proloquo2go, PODD, LAMP
- AAC Access
- Computers in therapy
- Brick-By-Brick Therapy
- Colourful semantics
- Cervical auscultation
- EHCPs
- Mental Capacity Act
- Clinical Supervision
- Clinical practice coordinator/educator
- First Aid at Work

Work Experience

[ATtherapy – February 2020 – Present](#)

I am employed at ATtherapy as a Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist and support both adults and children with a variety of complex physical and learning needs. My specialisms include AAC, complex needs and dysphagia and I have background in supporting medico legal cases as an expert witness. I also have a range of experience providing clinical supervision and training to support other health professionals, education staff, parents and care staff. I currently work across the Midlands and South West regions.

[Worcestershire Royal Hospital \(NHS\) - 2019 - 2020](#)

Within this setting I am a Specialist Speech and Language Therapist leading the communication and AAC service within the acute stroke setting as well as providing dysphagia assessments and intervention across the hospital.

[Gloucestershire Royal Hospital \(NHS\) 2018 - 2019](#)

Specialist Speech and Language Therapist in voice, communication, and dysphagia, providing therapy to both acute and community services.

[National Star \(charity/public\) 2015 - 2018](#)

Specialist Speech and Language Therapist in complex needs and learning disability, providing specialist AAC and dysphagia services across both college and community settings. This role involved MDT working and embedding AAC and clinical systems across settings, including education.

[The Children's Place \(private\) 2014 - 2015](#)

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Speech and Language Therapist in early years, providing assessment and therapy for children with speech, language and communication needs (mostly those with Autism Spectrum Disorder). This role was in both clinical and educational settings.

1Voice Communicating Together 2010 - Present

As a Trustee I plan and coordinate events and have an involvement in the overall running of the charity. I volunteer and participate in providing workshops for children that use assistive technology and support groups for their parents. I have been involved in some of the role model training and am currently working on setting up a branch in the Midlands/South West

Additional Skills

I demonstrate highly specialist skills across multiple environments and have expert knowledge in selecting appropriate strategies for prioritisation and management. Flexible working, effective time management and autonomy have underpinned these skills.

I am highly skilled in assessment, planning and implementing AAC systems and therapy programmes for individuals with complex communication needs. I am equally skilled in supporting those with dysphagia needs and multiple pathologies. My professional knowledge is supported by evidence-based practice and training in relevant therapeutic approaches. I oversee and deliver therapy programmes as well as provide support, training and modelling of best practice to all staff, families and caregivers.

I show effective communication skills across the MDT, using negotiation skills with clients, other professionals and colleagues with the department.

I adopt a range of professional skills within my practice including; identifying, recording, analysing and interpreting complex assessments to guide differential diagnosis and holistic therapy plans with measurable outcomes. I regularly develop and monitor therapy programmes for assistants and enjoy sharing ideas and advice with other professionals. I have built positive working relationships with colleagues across previous roles and work as part of an MDT.

In addition to these skills, I am also a trustee for the charity 1Voice Communicating Together, which seeks to bring AAC users and families together to form positive relationships and a support network. I am also part of the ATtherapy marketing team and am really motivated and passionate about networking and sharing the wonderful outcomes we achieve with our clients.

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