

Nina Lee

Speech and Language Therapist Assistant



Personal Profile

I have achieved over 10 years of work experience, as a support assistant in Primary and Further education, as well as paediatric & Adult SaLT services working in the NHS. I have experience of supporting clients with ABI, Acute Stroke (Dysphagia and Aphasia) learning difficulties and communication needs. With a caring disposition, I am also creative and like to explore this area within my work. I have a keen interest in Speech and Language Therapy and will continue to develop my knowledge, education and learning in this speciality.

Professional Qualifications

2020-2021 Care Certificate – Health Education, NHS England

2016-2017 OCR Intermediate Level Apprenticeship in Business Administration, Heart of Worcestershire College

2008-2009 Cache Level 3 Certificate for Teaching Assistants, Kidderminster College

2008-2009 Cache Level 2 Certificate for Teaching Assistant, Kidderminster College

1992-1994 B-TEC Foundation Art and Design Diploma

Employment History

2021 – Present - SaLT assistant at ATtherapy. In this role I am able to bring together my experience and competencies from all previous roles to work with a caseload of clients with ABI and complex communication impairments. I also support resource making and development of the team.

2017-2021 Support Worker, SLT Acute Adult Services and Acute Theatres, Worcestershire Acute Hospital Trust.

2016-2017 Business Admin Support/Assistant, SLT Paediatric Services, Worcestershire Health & Care Trust.

2012-2016 Teaching Assistant, St.Catherine's CE Primary School, Kidderminster.

2010-2012 Learning Support Assistant, Kidderminster College.

Additional Skills

2019- Level A- Assistant Dysphagia Practitioner Competency- RCSLT Dysphagia Training and competency framework (2014)

2018- Stroke Core competencies – NHS Scotland

2011- ABI Wheelchair Handling- ABI Education Service

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2018- Text Based Communication Systems- West Midlands Rehabilitation Centre (Access to communication Technology.)

NHS Theatre competencies – Worcestershire Acute Hospital Trust

Whilst studying at Kidderminster college, I was offered the opportunity to work as a Learning Support Assistant, for all older children (teenagers) and adult learning. I supported a group of ABI students with ITC, developing communication strategies to help them with independence and social skills. I also worked very closely with young adults with severe autism, promoting independence and developing skills such as, gardening, cooking and social gatherings within the college environment.

To gain permanent employment, I joined St.Catherine's CE Primary school, as a teaching Assistant. I worked in all year groups in this primary setting. My daily duties were to support the class teacher and children in all areas of the curriculum and supervise small groups of children to focus on specific targets and communication strategies. Supporting children with visual and/or hearing impairments, I learnt how to create and use activity choice boards, communication boards, school cards and flip books. I developed positive relationships with pupils and their parents and/or carers, encouraged independence and worked one-on-one with children to help improve their social engagement. I delivered targeted language & communication needs under local NHS Speech therapy services, in early years. As an active ambassador for "Communication TA", I forged positive relationships with local Speech and Language therapy teams and schools.

My interest into SaLT motivated me to volunteer for the paediatric service, which developed into an apprenticeship role. This position allowed me to work with health professionals, therapists, families, parents and carers and welcomed children into our clinics. Supporting the "Language for Learning" business within the clinic, I created high quality resources and supported training days. Children's speech therapy provided pre-nursery, early years, school (primary and secondary) and umbrella pathway (additional learning needs) support and I attended different settings with the therapists, as I was keen to develop my skills and learning within paediatric speech therapy.

In Nov 2017 I began working for Acute Adult Speech & Language Therapy as a support worker. This position was a dual role, assisting the team on wards, outpatient services and duties in administration. I supported SLT therapists on Acute stroke unit, Head & Neck department and also general wards, each with different responsibilities. I performed and reported on communication assessments, observations and monitored patients for lunchtime assessments (food and fluid intake), organised and assisted on Head & Neck outpatient clinics with FEES assessments, and adhered to dysphagia (IDDSI framework) trust guidelines. I gained experience using AAC low tech resources, such as communication boards & books and E-Tran frames to support patients communicating their care requirements. I created resources and responded to the needs of the SaLT team. I worked closely with nutrition and dietetics and other therapy colleagues, such as OT and physiotherapy. During this

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period, I achieved Dysphagia level A competencies, Stroke Core competencies and attended text-based communication systems training.

I then transferred to Theatre services, where I gained much knowledge into ENT, Maxillofacial and Oncology elected surgeries, therefore linking to adult SLT pathways. During which time, I have gained the Care Certificate qualification and supported patients/department through the Coronavirus pandemic and worked in Kidderminster Treatment Centre and Worcester Royal Hospital.

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