A Career in Speech and Language Therapy

AHP Information Evening for Educators
17 January 2019

Pauline Downie, Head of Speech and Language Therapy Service
Last year we asked staff,

“What does Speech and Language Therapy mean to you?”
What does SLT mean to you?
Supporting individuals at a time when they need it

@AdultSLTLan
www.givingvoiceuk.org
What does SLT mean to you?

- Supporting people and their families
- Listening to others
- Giving people a voice
- Person-centred working
- Respecting all views and beliefs
- Working in a team

@AdultSLTLAN

www.givingvoiceuk.org
Speech & Language Therapy.
What does it mean to you?
Meeting interesting people!

Giving Voice
Speech and Language Therapy transforms lives.
www.givingvoiceuk.org
What does SLT mean to you?

Helping people to participate in social activities.

Giving Voice
Speech and Language Therapy transforms lives
www.givingvoiceuk.org
What does SLT mean to you?

Supporting patients to reach their potential.

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Speech and Language Therapy transforms lives

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Speech & Language Therapy.
What does it mean to you?
NEW CHALLENGES

Giving Voice
Speech and Language Therapy transforms lives.
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"Improving quality of life for all patients at any stage of their illness."

Giving Voice | Speech and Language Therapy transforms lives

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What does SLT mean to you??

BEING AN ADVOCATE FOR THOSE WITH HIDDEN DISABILITIES!

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Speech and Language Therapy transforms lives

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What does SLT mean to you?

Empowering individuals to meet their communication and swallowing potential.

Giving Voice
Speech and Language Therapy transforms lives
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What does SLT mean to you??

Communication is the way we stay connected to our world. It puts us in touch with others, allows us to express ideas & feelings, give direction, and exert control over our environment.

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www.givingvoiceuk.org
Providing Person-Centred Care and Making a Difference to the lives of our patients, their families and carers.

www.givingvoiceuk.org
Having a positive effect on people who experience challenges with voice, speech and swallowing.

Giving Voice
Speech and Language Therapy transforms lives
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SLTs-what do we do?

Speech and language therapists are professionals who help children and adults who have difficulties with communication or with eating, drinking, drinking or swallowing.
SLTs- where do we work
All over Lanarkshire!

- Hospitals
- Health Centres
- Schools
- Nurseries
- Family Learning Centres
- Care Homes
- Prisons
- People’s Homes
SLTs - who do we help?

**Adults with:**
- Learning difficulties
- Physical difficulties
- Acquired conditions such as stroke or brain injury
- Neurodegenerative conditions such as Parkinson’s, dementia, MND, MS, Huntington’s
- Voice problems
- Swallowing problems
- Mental Health conditions
- Stammering

**Children with:**
- Learning difficulties
- Physical difficulties
- Mental Health problems
- Developmental Language Disorder
- Difficulties in producing speech sounds
- Deafness
- Cleft lip and palate
- Stammering
- Autism
- Voice disorders
- Selective mutism

**Babies with:**
- Feeding and swallowing difficulties
- Hearing problems
What do our clients say about us?

...the difference in my little girl is amazing...

...excellent care and treatment..

...the SLT was an empathic and caring person who was prepared to listen...my voice is much stronger...

...the SLT was professional, caring and always available—they made a huge difference to our family...

..the SLT team work coherently together with the firm focus on getting the patient through some very challenging times...
Who would make a good SLT? Do you enjoy...

- working with people of all ages and from all backgrounds
- working as part of a team
- leading a team
- always learning new things and being creative
- being part of a dynamic, rapidly developing profession which encompasses science, education, social sciences, languages, linguistics and medicine
- being responsible and accountable for your work
- solving problems
- listening and communicating with people
So how do you become a Speech and Language Therapist?
SLT Courses in Scotland

**Strathclyde University**
4 year BSc (Hons) course

**Queen Margaret University**
4 year BSc (Hons) course

or

2 year PgDip + 4 months MSc
Entry Requirements - undergraduate

**Strathclyde University**

Highers
- 1st sitting: AAAB or AABBB
- 2nd sitting: AAABB or AABBBB
- **Required Higher subjects**
- Higher English B
- Maths and a science (Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Engineering Science or Computing Science) all at a minimum National 5 C or equivalent
- another language at National 5 C is recommended

**Queen Margaret University**

Scottish Higher: AABBB

**Required subjects**: At least one of the following subjects at Higher/ A Level or equivalent; Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Psychology or Maths. English and Maths at S/Int2/N5/GCSE level.
What is the course like?

• Academic Subjects include
  • Linguistics
  • Phonetics
  • Psychology
  • Anatomy and Physiology
  • Neuroanatomy
  • Speech, Language, Communication and Swallowing conditions
  • Research

• Practical Placements each year
  • In hospitals, health centres, schools, nurseries
Speech and Language Therapy Assistants

- SLT Assistants work with SLTs to support Adults and Children with Communication and Swallowing difficulties
- No formal educational requirements
- On the job training- opportunities for further study
- New healthcare apprenticeship Scheme in England
What is the pay like?

- SLTs are on Agenda for Change pay rates
- SLT range band 5-8 (£23K-£60K)
- SLTA range band 2-4 (£17K-£23K)
Can you work overseas?

• Yes- there is a Mutual Recognition of Credentials agreement with many countries.

• If working in a country where English is not the first language you would have to have a very good standard of the language.
Work experience opportunities

If you would like to know more about speech and language therapy as a career please contact nextgen@nhs.net to arrange a work experience placement.
SLTs- follow us!

@SLT North
@adultSLTLAN
@AAC Lanarkshire
@paulinedownie

Adult Speech and Language Therapy NHS Lanarkshire
Speech and Language Therapy NHS Lanarkshire
AAC Lanarkshire
Useful links

Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists
https://www.rcslt.org/speech-and-language-therapy

Strathclyde University
https://www.strath.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/speechlanguagepathology/

Queen Margaret University
https://www.qmu.ac.uk/study-here/postgraduate-study/2019-postgraduate-courses/pgdip-msc-speech-and-language-therapy-pre-registration/

NHS Lanarkshire
http://www.nhslanarkshire.org.uk/Services/SLT/Pages/default.aspx

SLT Lanarkshire Facebook pages
https://www.facebook.com/SLTNorthLan/
https://www.facebook.com/adultSLTLan/
https://www.facebook.com/AAC-Lanarkshire-361951600642641/
Helping people with communication and swallowing difficulties to live their lives and fulfill their potential

A satisfying, fulfilling, lifelong career

Helping my staff to be the best SLTs and SLTAs they can be

Working with amazing colleagues and friends

What does Speech and Language Therapy mean to me?

Pauline Downie
Professional Lead for Speech and Language Therapy
NHS Lanarkshire
Questions?