

## JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Band 7 Speech & Language Therapist (Advanced)  
Department: Speech & Language  
Reports to: Head of Speech & Language Therapy

### Job Purpose

The speech and language therapist is responsible for assessment, intervention and consultation, to facilitate development of students' communication and eating and drinking skills.

### Key Tasks

#### **Team-working**

To meet the needs of all students effectively by working in partnership with other disciplines, especially the Health Services team.

- a) To demonstrate awareness of the roles of all other disciplines
- b) To work together with other disciplines for the effective management of students wherever appropriate
- c) To provide day to day support for any less experienced therapists
- d) To direct the work of the SLT technician in delivering therapy programmes for students on the postholder's caseload
- e) To provide support for SLT trainees on clinical placement

#### **Specialist Clinical Work - Complex special needs**

To manage a delineated caseload of students with epilepsy and/or autism together with other complex developmental or acquired needs attending the School and/or Further Education College through assessment, intervention and consultation.

- a) To provide an opinion on the suitability of NCYPE to meet a prospective student's needs
- b) To provide a baseline assessment of each new student's communication and/or eating/drinking skills and the environment in which these skills are used
- c) To evaluate the impact of epilepsy and/or autism spectrum disorders together with other complex developmental or acquired needs on a student's current communicative competence, taking into account variability and potential loss of skills
- d) To provide detailed recommendations which are suitable for incorporation into the student's education or care programmes
- e) To inform parents of the aims of regular therapy sessions
- f) To pass on skills in communication or eating and drinking issues related to a specific student
- g) To identify other situations beyond the postholder's current clinical competence and refer on/seek advice as needed

### **Specialist Clinical Work - AAC**

To co-ordinate provision of suitable Augmentative and Alternative Communication support for students with complex needs on the postholder's caseload by assessment, diagnostic therapy and advice

- a) To direct the work of the AAC technician in providing resources and/or training as required
- b) To instigate the provision of suitable equipment where needed

### **Specialist Clinical Work - Eating and Drinking Difficulties**

To provide specialist assessment of complex eating and drinking difficulties referred by others in the team

- a) To assess and recommend on complex eating and drinking difficulties, prioritizing safety, nutrition and hydration
- b) To liaise closely with medical and other staff in planning intervention and service development
- c) To identify situations beyond the postholder's current clinical competence and refer on/seek advice as needed
- d) To observe the Dysphagia Policy

### **Staff Training**

To train staff and carers on topics related to communication and/or eating and drinking by presenting workshops, induction or talks and to offer these to external staff as appropriate

- a) To run training sessions for internal staff in association with other SLTs on topics related to SLT area
- b) To run training sessions for internal staff on topics related to SLT area of specialism
- c) To participate in staff induction as required
- d) To offer external training courses in association with members of the SLT team or other staff at NCYPE as appropriate

### **Special Responsibilities**

To be agreed with postholder

### General

Ensure all duties are carried out in accordance with Health & Safety regulations as given in Health & Safety Manual.

This Job Description is not exhaustive and the postholder may be required to undertake other appropriate duties and projects from time to time.

NCYPE is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

June 2006.

## PERSON PROFILE

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 Department            Speech & Language

Key Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certificate to practise from RCSLT</li> <li>• Registered member of RCSLT and HPC</li> <li>• CRB disclosure will be required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence of higher study</li> <li>• Signing qualification (eg Signalong, Makaton, BSL)</li> <li>• Dysphagia qualification</li> </ul>
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least three years clinical experience in a range of settings</li> <li>• Experience in paediatrics, learning disability or acquired disorders</li> <li>• PC literate</li> <li>• Confident in delivering training to different audiences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience in an education setting</li> <li>• Experience with autism or complex needs</li> <li>• Use of signing (training can be given)</li> <li>• Experience in supervising other staff</li> </ul>
Personal qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good interpersonal skills</li> <li>• Flexible team member</li> <li>• Able to work independently towards deadlines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Able to provide and receive complex sensitive information</li> </ul>