



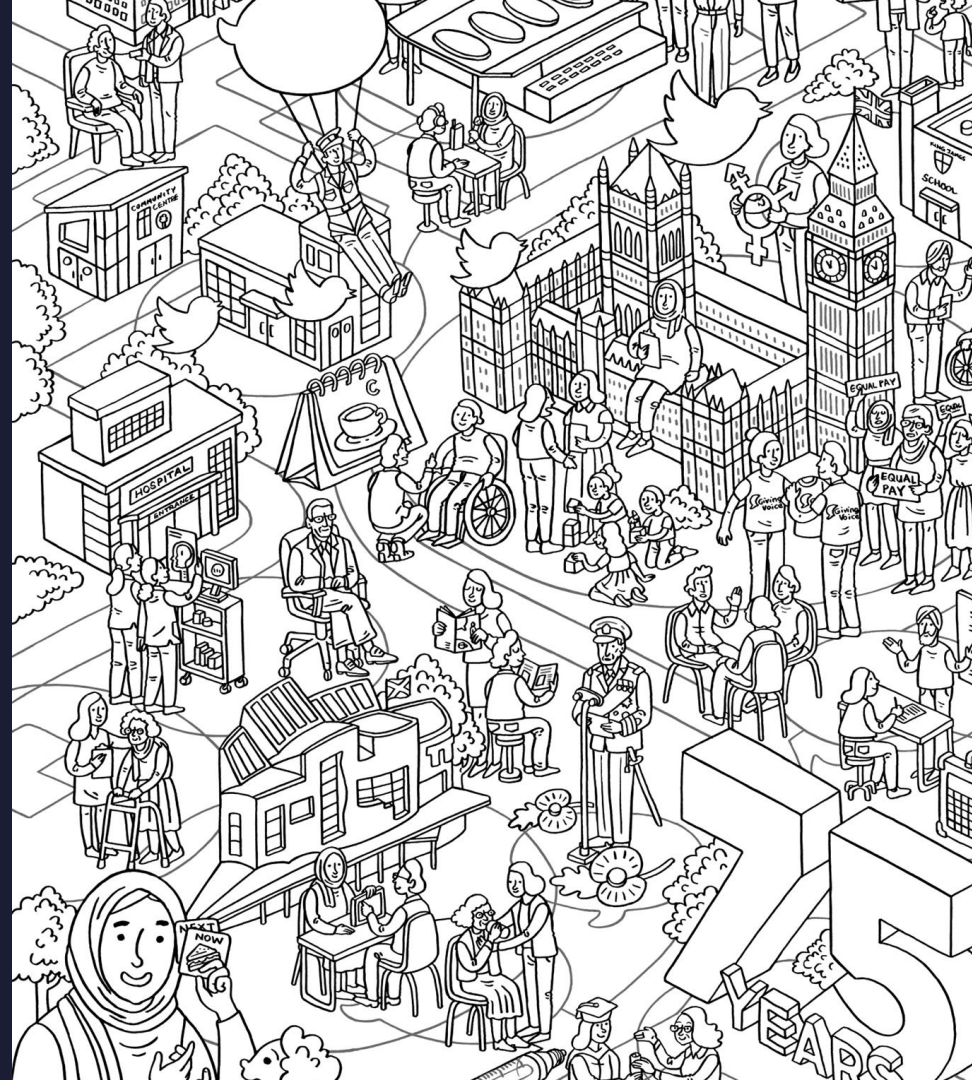
Voices of the Future: A Career in Speech and Language Therapy

13 November 2024





Welcome & housekeeping



Housekeeping

- Justyna Szeller (RCSLT Host) is on hand to help with any **technical queries**; you can get in touch with her via the **chat button**
- You can send in **questions** to our speakers today by using the **Q&A button**
- This event is being recorded and will be made available on the RCSLT website along with the presentation slides

Welcome!

By the end of this session, you will have a clear understanding of:

- What **speech and language therapy** entails
- The **diverse settings** where speech and language therapists work
- The **different pathways** to becoming a speech and language therapist
- The **experience of studying** speech and language therapy courses
- Where to find more information about the courses and the profession

What to expect today

- **Garbhán Cannon** – Recent MSc graduate and Speech and Language Therapist, NHS Guy's and St Thomas'
- **Lauren Salisbury** – Speech and Language Therapist and Programme Leader for BSc (Hons) Speech and Language Therapy, Wrexham University
- **María P. Miranda Rivera** – Speech and Language Therapist and Lecturer in Speech and Language Therapy, University of Essex
- **Ben Hillman** – Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist, Central London Healthcare
- **Q & A session**
- **Evaluation**
- **Close**

My route to becoming an SLT

- Undergraduate degree in English Language and Linguistics
- Teaching experience in Madrid, Spain
- Accepted into Speech and Language Therapy postgraduate degree at Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh

My experience

- 2 year degree with a mixture of paediatric, adult and professional practice modules
- 5 clinical placements
 - Adults with Learning Disability in Criminal Justice System
 - Paediatric Community
 - Complex Needs and Paediatric Dysphagia
 - Neurorehabilitation
 - Paediatric Acute
- 1 community placement
 - Speech Language Communication Company (SLCo)

Things that might help to know about

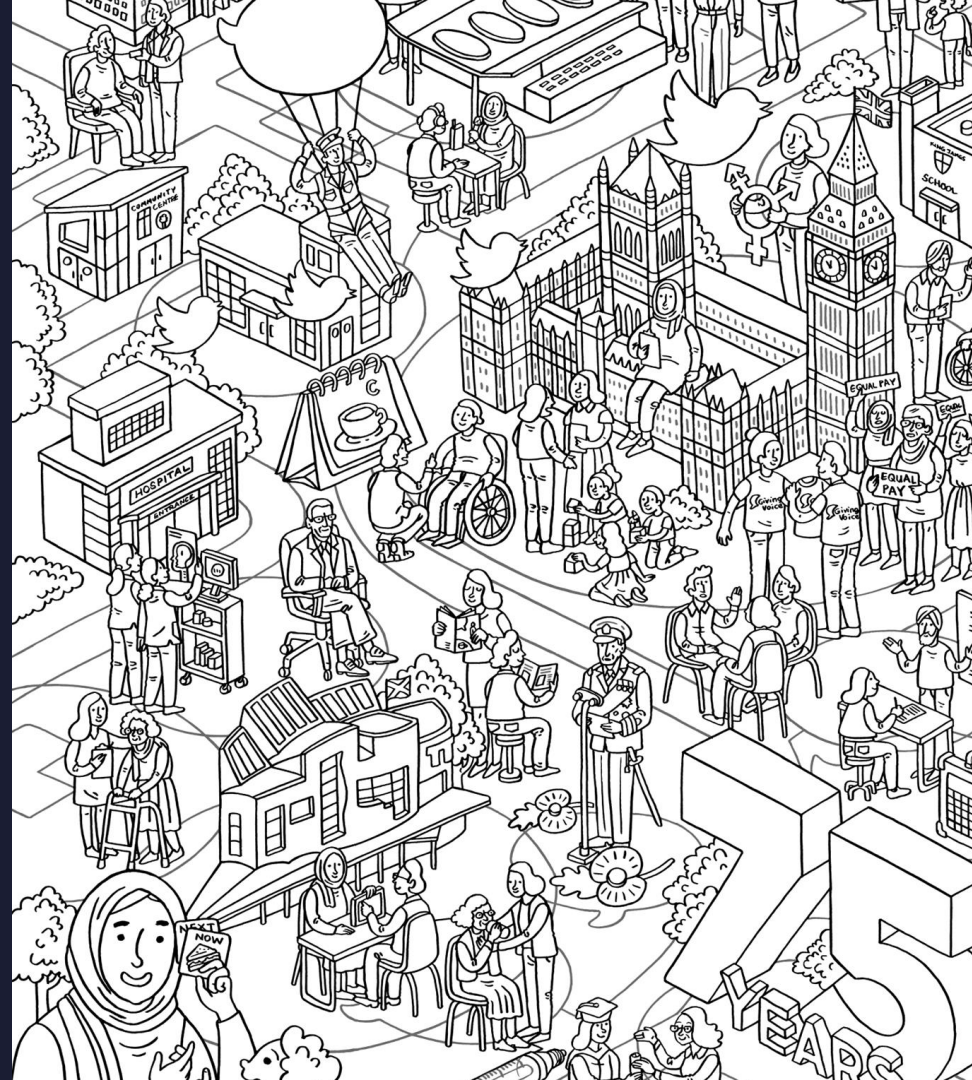
- Funding - NHS Learning Support Fund (LSF)
 - Only eligible for healthcare students in England
- SLT student societies
 - A great way to connect with other SLT students and access support and resources
- A passport to work abroad
 - There are opportunities to work internationally, such as Commonwealth Countries, United States, Non-Governmental Organisations, etc.



Studying Speech and Language Therapy in Wales.

Lauren Salisbury

Speech and Language Therapist
Programme Leader for BSc (Hons) Speech and Language Therapy at Wrexham University
Also providing information on behalf of Cardiff Metropolitan University



Entry Criteria

Wrexham University

- 120 UCAS Tariff points. A Level results - BBB.

Cardiff Metropolitan University

- 160 UCAS Tariff points. A Level results - ABB

Applicable to both universities

- Interview
- Contextual admissions
- Health and criminal record checks
- English Language IELTS grade 7.5.
- GCSE Grades A - C in English, Maths and Science.
- BTEC National / Cambridge Technical Extended Diploma: DDD/DDM considered. Dependant on subject studied and strength of overall application.

Why study in Wales?

- There are two, three-year, full-time, pre-registration degree programmes that offer Speech and Language Therapy (SaLT) - Wrexham University & Cardiff Metropolitan University.
- They both offer NHS funded places. There are typically 40 students in a cohort in Cardiff Met and 20 at Wrexham, reflecting the university size.
- Wales has some of the lowest living costs in the UK.
- Wrexham University is number 1 in the UK for social inclusion and second in Wales for teaching quality.
- Cardiff Met's SaLT degree is ranked in the top ten in the UK by students.
- We have an 'All-Wales' collaborative approach to placements.
- Wales has breathtaking mountain ranges, rugged coastlines and seven cities to explore. It boasts a culture of music, sport, arts and innovation.



Speech and Language Therapy Apprenticeship at the University of Essex

María P. Miranda Rivera

Speech and Language Therapist

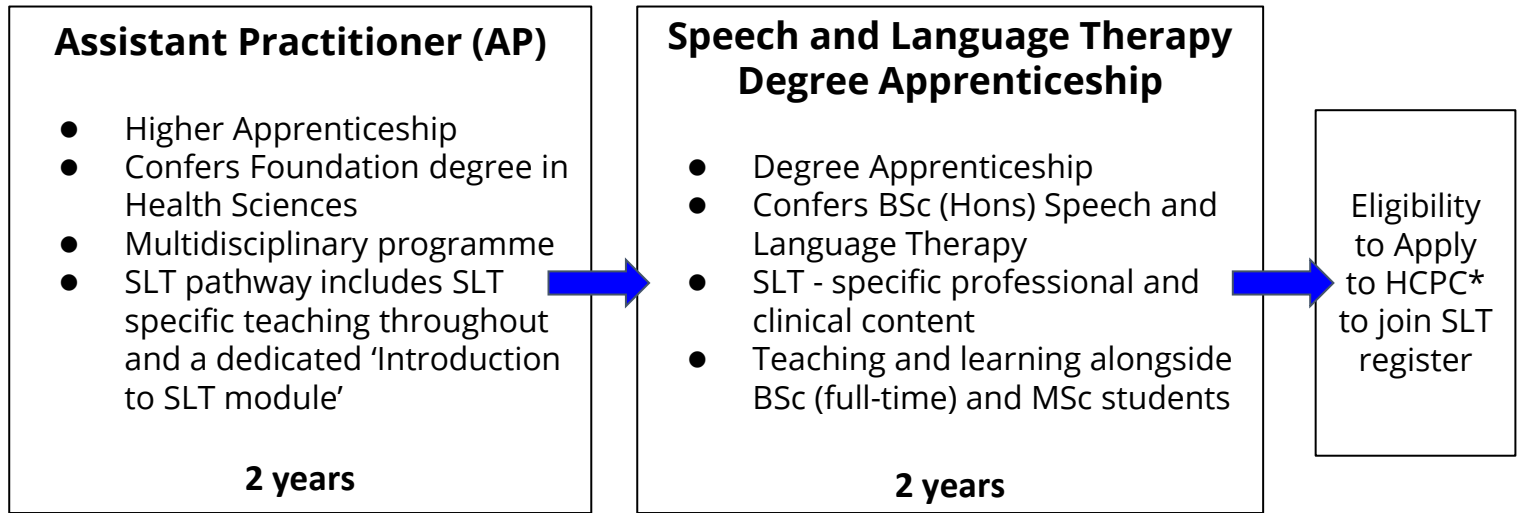
Lecturer in Speech and Language Therapy

University of Essex



SLT Apprenticeship - main points

- A pathway to becoming an SLT where apprentices work and study simultaneously (“learn while you earn”)
- No student fees; employer pays tuition fees



Some key entry criteria (University of Essex)

Assistant Practitioner

- Level 2 English & Maths
- Level 3 qualification (at least 13 credits)

SLT Degree Apprenticeship

- Relevant Foundation degree or equivalent Level 5 qualifications with SLT evidence (typically AP)
- Level 2 English & Maths
- 30+ weekly hours employment within a relevant professional practice setting
- Employer must provide a work-based Speech and Language Therapist mentor



Speech Therapy and Youth Justice

Ben Hillman

Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist
Central London Healthcare



My Journey

- Studied level 3 BTEC extended diploma at college and Graduated 2019 from De Montfort University
- Initial band 5 position working in Secondary schools
- Specialist Band 6 position working with young people with Social, Emotional and mental health needs. Included 1 day per week at Greenwich YJS with a Band 7 colleague
- Highly specialist Band 7 position (current) working for CLCH as the Youth Justice team lead
- Extra training is not essential but a keen interest and general knowledge working with this population including relevant experience.

Why/how can we support Young People?

- 60-90% of young people in YJS have SLCN,
- 95% of all YJS' in the UK have access to an SLT
- Support YJS practitioners to adapt sessions and tailor them for Young People with additional needs,
- Provide specific training for those working with Young People,
- Either screen Young People for SLCN or support others to do this and complete assessments to explore SLCN
- Write specific recommendations for court, education or others working with Young People,
- Support onward referrals i.e. for Autism

Case study

T.S- 17 yrs old

- Young person was in and out of school. Came to us at 16 (never known to SLT before),
- Through court process was identified as Autistic,
- SLT met with Young person, supported application for an intermediary,
- Completed a communication profile (strengths and needs) for the court and enabled the court to implement recommendations for how they can support him during the trial. Example: give him time to process what's being said, be explicit and don't use idioms

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- Start voting!

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