



Curriculum Vitae

Rowan Barr - Independent Speech & Language Therapist

Therapist's base: Gateshead, North East England

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Personal Profile

I am a motivated, enthusiastic and caring speech and language therapist with a clinical expertise in working with individuals with a Learning Disability. I am committed to, and feel passionate about the welfare, development and encouragement of others and supporting patients to reach their full potential. I have developed my skills in communication and dysphagia assessment and intervention, working with patients both in the community and in a mental health inpatient setting. I support patients to develop their communication methods, deliver training and support with capacity assessments. I strive to work with individuals in a holistic and patient-centred way, and enjoy working within an MDT to support the individuals I work with to achieve their goals.

Employment History

- **September 2023 - Current** **Speech Therapy North East**
Independent Speech and Language Therapist (Associate)
 - Providing independent communication and/or swallowing assessment to clients with acquired communication and swallowing difficulties. This role requires flexible working, effective time management and allows me to continually develop my specialist interest in providing input to clients with learning disabilities.

- **February 2021 - Current** **Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust**
Clinical Lead Speech and Language Therapist
 - I clinically lead an Adult Learning Disability SLT team, spread across a large geographical area. I also carry my own clinical

caseload of patients who have a diagnosis of Learning Disability. I use my specialist knowledge and skills to support patients with complex communication and dysphagia needs to reach their potential. I am also involved with Autism assessment and diagnosis within adult learning disabilities. I work closely with members of the MDT in health and social care.

▪ **April 2018 -
February 2021**

Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust
Specialist Speech and Language Therapist

- I worked within the Adult Learning Disabilities integrated teams as a Specialist SLT. My caseload included patients 18+ and ranged from individuals with mild to severe learning disabilities. I assessed and provided treatment/therapy in both complex communication and dysphagia cases. Within this post I also spent some time in the adult learning disabilities mental health inpatient unit, where I provided support to MDT members around how to support the patient's communication, how these recommendations could integrate into care plans and ultimately work towards discharge back into the community.

▪ **January 2018 -
May 2019**

Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust
Speech and Language Therapist

- I had the opportunity to do a secondment, where I spent two days a week in the CAMHS autism assessment team supporting to set up a service of a one-week autism assessment MDT. I carried out formalised communication assessments, and autism specific assessments, including; ADI-R and ADOS which contributed to formulation meetings to identify whether a child would meet the criteria for a diagnosis of autism.

▪ **December 2016 -
April 2018**

Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust
Speech and Language Therapist

- I worked within an Adult Learning Disabilities integrated team, working closely with MDT colleagues in health and social care to provide assessment and intervention around communication for adults with a diagnosed learning disability. Communication interventions included the use of a range of AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication) methods, to support the individual to

participate in daily life and reduce barriers to communication.

- **March 2016 - December 2016** **Capability Scotland**
Speech and Language Therapy Assistant
 - I worked within a school for children with complex needs, working closely alongside an SLT. I would support with AAC, training class staff in ways to support communication and review of dysphagia management plans. I led on ensuring that the school was a communication friendly environment, to support the children to engage and participate throughout the school day.

- **November 2015 - March 2016** **Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS**
Project Coordinator
 - I took up a temporary post to support a team which was put together to raise awareness of communication difficulties across different services. My primary role was to provide training into communication difficulties to different teams, including; different wards within the hospital, the fire service who work with vulnerable people in the community and a range of charities.

Qualifications

- **2015** Speech and Language Pathology (BSc) University of Strathclyde
- **2016** Talking Mats Foundation Training
- **2017** Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS)
- **2017** Makaton Foundation Training
- **2018** Autism Diagnostic Interview (ADI-R)
- **2020** Dysphagia qualification (in-house NHS)

Memberships

- Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (2015-present)
- Health and Care Professionals Council (2015-present)