



Ruth Buddle

Specialist Speech and Language Therapist

Health and Care Professions Council number: SL040029

Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists registration number: RC0042583

Personal Profile

I am a dedicated and passionate Speech and Language Therapist with a strong work ethic. I am highly motivated and organised, with excellent attention to detail. I have gained broad clinical experience through both NHS and independent practice, with a specialism in Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) and literacy. I am particularly interested in supporting clients who are learning to read and spell, and in helping them transfer these developing literacy skills to text-based AAC systems. I aim to enable clients to type freely using different access methods — such as eye gaze, switch, hand, or head control — rather than being restricted to pre-programmed vocabulary packages. My approach focuses on empowering individuals through personalised communication solutions that promote independence, confidence, and self-advocacy. I am currently completing my Post-Basic Dysphagia qualification at the University of Manchester to further expand my clinical expertise.

Professional Qualifications

2025 – 2026: [The University of Manchester](#) – Post-Basic Dysphagia – Pending

2020 – 2022: [Manchester Metropolitan University](#)- MSc Speech and Language Therapy (Pre-Registration) – Distinction

2013 – 2016: [The University of Sheffield](#) - BA (Hons) English Language and Linguistics – Upper Second Class Honours

Employment History

[ATtherapy: Specialist Speech and Language Therapist \(Band 6\) · October 2024 – Present](#)

In my current Band 6 role, I provide assessment and intervention for clients with complex communication needs, primarily resulting from brain injury. My caseload includes clients who use AAC and require bespoke literacy-based intervention. I design and deliver therapy programmes that develop reading and spelling skills alongside AAC use, supporting individuals to achieve functional written communication. I work collaboratively within a multidisciplinary team to ensure holistic, client-centred support. I also provide training and guidance to families, therapy assistants, and professionals, ensuring consistent and effective implementation of communication strategies across environments.

[ATtherapy: Speech and Language Therapist \(Band 5\) · January 2024 – October 2024](#)

During my Band 5 year at ATtherapy, I gained experience working with children and adults with complex communication needs following brain or birth injuries. I carried out detailed assessments, wrote treatment plans, and delivered individual and group therapy sessions. This role allowed me to develop my clinical interest in AAC and literacy and to gain confidence supporting clients using a range of communication systems and access methods.

[Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust: Speech and Language Therapist · September 2022 – January 2024](#)

I independently managed caseloads across Early Years and school-aged children with speech, language, and communication needs. My role included conducting assessments, writing reports, liaising with schools and parents, and delivering parent training on early communication strategies.

Manchester Metropolitan University: Student Speech and Language Therapist · September 2020 – September 2022

Clinical placements included working with adults with acquired neurological conditions and with children with complex needs and disabilities. I gained experience delivering sessions in a school resource base for children with autism and supporting adults with dysphagia under supervision.

The Stroke Association: Communication Supporter · September 2019 – September 2020

I supported adults with aphasia using supported conversation techniques, helping them rebuild confidence with their communication following stroke.

Training

- Makaton Levels 1 and 2
- Talking Mats
- Talk Tools
- Brick Play
- WellComm Screening
- Internal NHS training: Cleft Speech, Stammering, Developmental, Language Disorder, Down Syndrome, Low-Tech AAC
- CAPS Universal Level

Areas of Interest

I have a strong interest in AAC and literacy development. I believe that access to literacy is a key component of communication for AAC users. I create and implement structured literacy programmes aligned with the school curriculum to ensure equal learning opportunities for AAC users. My work focuses on helping clients develop the skills and confidence to communicate through written language, supporting their progression from symbol-based to text-based communication systems.

Additional Skills

- Skilled in a range of formal and informal assessments for speech, language, and communication.
- Strong collaborative skills when working with families, schools, and multidisciplinary teams.
- Experience delivering evidence-based interventions for both paediatric and adult clients.
- Committed to reflective practice, clinical supervision, and ongoing professional development.

ATtherapy

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