

Professional Profile

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name	Isobel Chick	
Position	Speech and Language Therapist	
Address	Sandford House, 6-7 Lower High Street, Stourbridge, DY8 1TE	
Email / Telephone	enquiries@nppneurogroup.com	0800 917 3330

PROFILE

I am an experienced Speech and Language Therapist with a special interest in communication and swallowing rehabilitation following stroke and brain injury and I am currently pursuing a PhD in this area. I also have extensive experience assessing and managing communication and swallowing disorders in clients with progressive conditions such as Parkinson's, dementia, Multiple Sclerosis and Motor Neurone Disease. I am experienced in supervising, supporting and mentoring staff and I am committed to pursuing ongoing career and professional development. I am particularly interested in service development and ensuring that services are evidence-based, innovative and client-focused.

KEY SKILLS

- Swallowing Rehabilitation post stroke and brain injury
- Communication
- Management of progressive conditions such as Parkinsons, Dementia, Multiple Sclerosis and Motor Neurone Disease
- Neuro Rehabilitation post brain injury

AREAS OF EXPERTISE / OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

Areas of Expertise

Professional Memberships:

HCPC Registration SL35667

Courses Attended (a selection):

- Specialist dysphagia practitioner
- LSVT LOUD (specialist Parkinson's voice training) certified practitioner
- Quality, service improvement and redesign (QSIR) practitioner
- Completed Bond Solon "Excellence in Report Writing" course and able to take on expert witness/medico-legal work

EDUCATION

PhD Experimental Psychology (aphasia rehabilitation): September 2021 – March 2025, University College London

I am researching the role of gesture in aphasia rehabilitation and I am developing a lesion-specific therapy programme to improve speech comprehension and word retrieval in post-stroke aphasia in collaboration with colleagues at Moss Rehabilitation Research Institute (Philadelphia, USA).

MSc Speech and Language Therapy: Distinction with Clinical Distinction, 2015-2017, University of Reading

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL ROLES

- Working group member, RCSLT Clinical academic careers project, September 2021 – Present
- Book reviewer, RCSLT Bulletin magazine, May 2021 - Present
- Evidence reviewer, National Institute for Health Research, September 2020 - Present
- Peer reviewer, RCSLT End of life care clinical guidelines, 2019-2020

AWARDS AND PRIZES

- Brain Research UK PhD Studentship 2021
- Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists' Minor Grant 2019
- Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust 'Seeking Excellence' Award 2019

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Associate Speech and Language Therapist, Neuro Rehab Group, August 2021 – Present

- I independently manage a varied caseload of adults, young adults and children with swallowing and communication difficulties due to brain injury and stroke, including swallow rehabilitation for clients who rely on non-oral (enteral) feeding such as percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG). I provide comprehensive assessment, management planning, therapy and appropriate staff/carer/communication partner training. I also provide expert witness/medico-legal services (assessment, condition and prognosis reports).

Advanced Specialist (Band 7) Speech and Language Therapist, Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust, January 2022 – August 2022;

Specialist (Band 6) Speech and Language Therapist, Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust, April 2018 – August 2021

- I independently managed a caseload of adults with acquired communication and swallowing disorders due to neurological conditions, including stroke, brain injury, Parkinson's Motor Neurone Disease, Cerebral Palsy and dementia. I assessed clients, developed management plans and provided appropriate therapy.
- I was the Trust specialist in adult dysfluency and developed the Trust's first adult dysfluency care pathway (acquired and developmental stammering and cluttering).
- I led on clinical audit activities for the service and supported service development, clinical pathway and delivery changes, such as developing tele-health services.
- I developed experience using a variety of clinical communication and cognition assessments, including the Comprehensive Aphasia Test, Western Aphasia Battery, Frenchay Dysarthria Assessment, Boston Naming Test, Oxford Cognitive Screen.
- I implemented a wide range of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) methods including both paper-based and high-tech systems.
- I collaborated closely with colleagues at the Stroke Association, Alzheimer's Society, Clinical Psychology and related departments to provide specialised communication and dysphagia training to family members, carers and multidisciplinary team members.
- I mentored and supported students and colleagues from a range of fields including Speech and Language Therapy, nursing, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Clinical Psychology. I provided clinical supervision for Band 5 and less experienced Band 6 Speech and Language Therapists.

Speech and Language Therapist, South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust, October 2017 – April 2018

- I independently assessed and managed a caseload of children with developmental and acquired communication and swallowing disorders, including brain injury, stroke, Deafness, autism, Developmental Language Disorder. I also provided communication partner training to family members, carers and teaching staff.

SPECIALIST CLINICAL SKILLS, TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS

- Specialist dysphagia practitioner
- LSVT LOUD (specialist Parkinson's voice training) certified practitioner
- Quality, service improvement and redesign (QSIR) practitioner
- Completed Bond Solon "Excellence in Report Writing" course and able to take on expert witness/medico-legal work

REFERENCES

References available upon request