


**"PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION  
STANDARDS AND FRAMEWORKS FOR  
DEVELOPING CLINICAL COMPETENCES  
ACROSS THE ALLIED HEALTH  
DISCIPLINES IN UK"**



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Invited presentation  
for Hochschulverbund Gesundheitsfachberufe  
7<sup>th</sup> June 2019

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@ReSNetSLT


- Professional Associations
- Regional & national research networks
- International collaborations



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**uclan**  
University of Central Lancashire

The city of Preston, the home of our main Campus, is located in the heart of the North West. Preston is the administrative capital of Lancashire, has an estimated population of 130,000, excellent transport links, fantastic countryside as well as a bustling, compact city centre. Preston has the friendly feel of a traditional Lancashire town, with a proud history. You're close to the rolling countryside of the Ribbles Valley, the striking Trough of Bowland, Blackpool, Morecambe Bay and the Southern Lakes.

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COMMITTED TO  
A TRULY  
SUSTAINABLE  
FUTURE

OUTSTANDING  
TEACHING FOR  
OUTSTANDING  
STUDENTS

RESEARCH  
WITH REAL  
WORLD IMPACT

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## SESSION OVERVIEW

- ACCREDITATION & REGULATORY PROCESSES
- CLINICAL PRACTICE PLACEMENT MODELS
- DEBATES / DISCUSSIONS
- FUTURE DIRECTIONS IN PRACTICE EDUCATION

TEACHING CURRICULUM	REGULATED
PRACTICE PLACEMENT STANDARDS	REGULATED
TRAINING FOR PRACTICE EDUCATORS	RECOMMENDED BUT NOT REGULATED
STANDARD ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR CLINICAL PLACEMENT	RECOMMENDED BUT NOT REGULATED

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<https://www.hcpc-uk.org/education/resources/education-standards/>

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## Standards of education and training

**hcpc** health & care professions council

- + Level of qualification for entry to the Register
- + Programme admissions
- + Programme governance, management and leadership
- + Programme design and delivery
- + Practice-based learning
- + Assessment

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## Defining a clinical placement ...

Clinical placements provide the opportunity for students to develop clinical awareness and the skills of reflection and self-evaluation, together with the opportunity to develop interpersonal skills with both clients and colleagues. In addition, clinical teaching aims to clarify the role of the speech and language therapist in the different settings in which a service is provided. It also provides experience of related health care and educational provision, day-to-day administration in speech and language therapy settings, and wider organisational and management issues. The organisation of clinical placements during a qualifying course is therefore a crucial element in the preparation of a competent clinician.

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International Journal of Speech-Language Pathology

ISSN: 1754-9507 (Print) 1754-9515 (Online) Journal homepage: <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/iasp20>

**An international study of clinical education practices in speech-language pathology**

Lyndal Sheepway, Michelle Lincoln & Leanne Togher

178 L. Sheepway et al.

Table II. Placement models used within each country.

	Australia (n=8)	Canada (n=3)	Ireland (n=1)	New Zealand (n=1)	South Africa (n=1)	UK (n=6)	USA (n=12)	Total (n=32)
Block	8 (100)	3 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0	6 (100)	9 (75)	28 (87.5)
Weekly	8 (100)	3 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	5 (83)	8 (67)	27 (84)
Specialist	6 (75)	2 (67)	1 (100)	0	1 (100)	0	5 (42)	15 (47)
Project	3 (37.5)	0	0	0	1 (100)	3 (50)	0	7 (21.9)
International	5 (62.5)	3 (100)	0	1 (100)	0	1 (17)	2 (17)	12 (37.5)
Interprofessional	6 (75)	3 (100)	1 (100)	0	1 (100)	3 (50)	3 (25)	17 (53)
Rural	8 (100)	3 (100)	0	1 (100)	1 (100)	5 (83)	9 (75)	27 (84)
Role-emerging	2 (25)	1 (33)	1 (100)	0	0	3 (50)	0	7 (21.9)

n (%).

**Mode of supervision**

- Direct supervision: Supervision is delivered primarily via observation and feedback about sessions with clients, and through face-to-face supervisory conferences. Some indirect methods (e.g., reflections, self-evaluations) may be used.
- Indirect supervision: Supervisor is present less than half the time and supervision is delivered primarily via indirect means such as supervisory conferences, reflections, self-evaluations, etc. Little direct observation and feedback about sessions are used.
- Teaching clinic: Structured peer group supervision where one participant brings a video of a session for the group to analyse, evaluate, and discuss. Based on Dowling (1979).
- Distance supervision: Supervision is delivered primarily via distance methods such as video-conferencing and teleconferencing.
- WebCT discussion forums, at *Student-to-supervisor ratio*
- Interprofessional supervision: part in shared learning exercises; organized team activities; observation/treatment procedures, etc. presentations) with other allied and/or medical students.

**Placement models**

- Block placement: Students attend the clinical placement site for more than 2 days per week for a specified period (e.g., 4 days per week for 6 weeks).
- Weekly placement: Students attend the clinical placement site for less than 2 full days per week.
- Specialist placement: The purpose of the placement is for students to gain clinical experience in a specialist area of speech-language pathology (e.g., paediatric feeding).
- Project placement: The purpose of the placement is for students to complete a project initiated by the placement site, under the supervision of a speech-language pathologist. The project could be something like a QI project or the development, implementation, and evaluation of an intervention program.
- International placement: Students attend a placement that is outside the country of the host university.
- Inter-professional placement: Students participate in interdisciplinary interactive modules, revision and assessment of the students are the responsibility of the speech-language pathology department.
- Placement: Students attend a placement that is outside a major metropolitan centre.
- Emerging placement: The purpose of the placement is for students to explore and clarify the role of a speech-language pathologist in a setting with no speech-language pathology services on-site.

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Programs need to start evaluating student competency development in both traditional and non-traditional placement and supervisory models to increase the evidence base regarding clinical education models. For this evidence to be developed, consistent terminology and a shared understanding of this terminology across speech-language pathology and other allied health disciplines needs to be developed. Programs can then adopt the most appropriate and effective models to suit their educational philosophy, course structure, and country.

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## Do you see students as an essential part of your workforce?

### Understand ...

- how students can fit into your working day
- the range of activities students can undertake
- how to identify students' development and support needs
- how to monitor their progress
- about a range of innovative practice education models
- where to find support resources and materials

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## BENEFITS for the clinical team of having students on placements ...

- ✓valuable "continuing professional development" (CPD)
- ✓develops their personal clinical reasoning skills through case discussion with the student
- ✓promotes more reflective practice about applying theory into patient context
- ✓gaining insights into latest research knowledge from the students
- ✓share workload
- ✓enhance a "learning culture" in the team/workplace
- ✓contribute insights from other work settings
- ✓can help develop resources or undertake projects
- ✓strengthens links with the local universities
- ✓helps recruit new staff

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## Single student placements ...

OPPORTUNITIES	CHALLENGES
Easy to accommodate in the clinic schedule	The practice educator may need to develop new skills to build rapport with certain students
Can focus on developing that student's own skills	
Only one report to write	
Develops mentoring skills for the practice educator	

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## Paired 'peer' student placements ...

OPPORTUNITIES	CHALLENGES
Peers support each other and plan together	May require more physical space
Can facilitate a clinical discussion	Students may require different support techniques
Clinical educator can simplify the tasks and give each student different roles	May be difficult to maintain privacy for feedback
Students learn from watching and challenging each other	
Practice educator can develop leadership and management skills	

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## Remote student placements ...

OPPORTUNITIES	CHALLENGES
Practice educator can complete other planned work	Needs very clearly defined engagement between practice educator and the student
Student/s undertake work in a separate location	May require additional set-up time at the remote location
Can facilitate project-based work	Practice educator needs to be confident in their supervision skills
Develops the student's organisational and reporting skills	Students need to have good self-reflection and evaluation skills
Develops the student's confidence	
Practice educator can develop leadership, coaching and management skills	

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### Role-Emerging Placements are an Essential Risk for the Development of the Occupational Therapy Profession: The Debate

Rachel Cooper, Rosi Raine

First Published September 1, 2009 | Research Article  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/030802260907200910>

Article information



#### Abstract

There is an increasing awareness of the use of role-emerging placements within occupational therapy education. A greater number of higher education institutions are recognising the value of their students undertaking at least one of their practice placements within a role-emerging setting. Similarly, students are developing a sense of the depth of the learning experience that can be gained from these placements. However, with these developments are the inevitable challenges, posed to academic staff, students, clinicians, staff within the voluntary sector and the profession as a whole. This opinion piece discusses both the challenges and the opportunities posed by the increasing use of role-emerging placements within the United Kingdom, and whether or not role-emerging placements are actually essential to the development of the profession.

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**Danke vielmals**  
 Lass uns das Gespräch fortsetzen!



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Director Research Support Network <https://resnetslt.com/>

Co-Director Advancing Dysphagia Practice <https://advancingdysphagiapractice.com/>

Vice Chair Council for Allied Health Professions Research (CAHPR) UK Strategy Board  
<https://cahpr.csp.org.uk/about-cahpr>

Chair Cumbria & Lancs CAHPR Hub <http://uclanahp.blogspot.co.uk/>

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RCSLT Curriculum Guidance  
 for the pre-registration education  
 of speech and language therapists

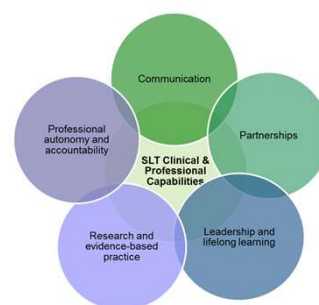


Figure 1. The RCSLT five core capabilities

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### 3.4.1 Mandatory placement hours

Each speech and language therapy graduate recommended as eligible to apply to the HCPC for registration must be able to provide evidence of completion of the minimum number of practice education sessions specified by the RCSLT (150 sessions (325 hours, assuming 2.5-hour sessions)). This minimum standard applies to all programmes, regardless of duration, mode of delivery or structure.

#### Mandatory placements supervised by SLTs (100 sessions/350 hours)

A minimum of 100 sessions must be undertaken on placement under the direct supervision of a qualified SLT. Of these placement hours, at least 50 sessions must be with paediatric and 30 with adult client groups, with the remainder being organised to reflect local service delivery practice and needs. They should include opportunities to work directly with a range of service users in a variety of settings, in addition to indirect work, as appropriate. Detailed guidance on practice placement provision can be found in *RCSLT National Standards for Practice-Based Learning (2006)*.

#### Additional placements (50 sessions/175 hours)

The additional 50 placement sessions may also be supervised by a qualified SLT. Alternatively, a combination of placement sessions may be undertaken in areas associated with speech and language therapy work; for example, educational, social care and/or voluntary body placements, individual child studies, clinical simulation, and supported by professionals from these areas.

Where programmes include a part-time route, the periods and duration of practice education experience for part-time learners should be equivalent to that of full-time learners. The RCSLT recommends that there should be a period of clinical practice close to the end of the programme, so that learners have fresh experience of clinical work when graduating.