



Stronger communication,  
better outcomes

Remove barriers to learning

Practical strategies for  
real classrooms

# Speech & Language Support Practitioner Level 5 Apprenticeship

Develop specialist expertise in speech, language  
and communication needs (SLCN)



“Having completed several professional qualifications during my time in education, this is the programme that most clearly impacted my day-to-day practice.”

- Apprenticeship Graduate



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## Introduction

The Speech & Language Support Practitioner Apprenticeship is a specialist development programme for teaching assistants and support staff who want to strengthen their expertise in supporting pupils with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN).

Delivered by Best Practice Network in partnership with Speech & Language Link, the programme combines Best Practice Network's expertise in designing and delivering high-quality apprenticeships with Speech and Language Link's specialist knowledge of speech, language and communication.

Built on the Level 5 Specialist Teaching Assistant standard, the programme supports staff to identify needs early, adapt classroom practice and improve outcomes for pupils across the school.

## Who should apply?

This apprenticeship is suitable for school staff who want to develop specialist expertise in speech, language and communication, particularly those supporting pupils with additional needs.

### Example roles include:

- Teaching Assistants
- SEND Teaching Assistants
- Learning Support Assistants
- Higher Level Teaching Assistants (HLTAs)
- Pastoral and inclusion staff
- Early career support staff looking to progress

## Programme content

- ✓ **Module 1:** Wellbeing and resilience & study
- ✓ **Module 2:** Reflective practice & professional development
- ✓ **Module 3:** Legal requirements & guidance
- ✓ **Module 4:** Curriculum
- ✓ **Module 5:** The learning environment
- ✓ **Module 6:** Child development & how children learn
- ✓ **Module 7:** Theories of learning
- ✓ **Module 8:** Pedagogy
- ✓ **Module 9:** Supporting individual needs
- ✓ **Module 10:** Learning resources & technology
- ✓ **Module 11:** Planning
- ✓ **Module 12:** Assessment
- ✓ **Module 13:** Advocating for learner needs
- ✓ **Module 14:** Effective teamworking & partnership working

Specialist speech and language learning is embedded throughout the programme, supported by expert input from Speech & Language Link.

## Programme structure

Delivery Structure



"I am very grateful to my Course Tutor for their advice and support throughout the course."

- Apprenticeship Graduate

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## Benefits

- ✓ Develop specialist expertise in speech, language and communication needs (SLCN)
- ✓ Learn from both apprenticeship specialists and speech and language experts
- ✓ Benefit from input from qualified speech and language therapists
- ✓ Strengthen safeguarding practice and confidence
- ✓ Apply practical, evidence-informed strategies in the classroom
- ✓ Identify and support pupils with communication needs more effectively
- ✓ Improve pupil participation, understanding and progress
- ✓ Build a portfolio of evidence demonstrating real impact in your setting

## Eligibility

To be eligible, participants must:

- Be currently employed in a school or education setting
- Have employer support to complete the programme
- Be able to apply learning in their role and complete workplace activities
- Have the right to work and study in England

## AT A GLANCE



**Course duration**  
18 months



**This course awards**  
Speech & Language Link Certification & Specialist Teaching Assistant Level 5



**Access to**  
Online learning and training events



**Apprenticeship Levy Funding**  
Fully funded through the Apprenticeship Levy

~~£12,000~~

£0 with Apprenticeship Levy funding

## Build expertise that makes a difference every day

Equip yourself and your school with the knowledge and practical strategies to support pupils with SLCN, helping them access learning, participate fully and achieve their potential.



Learn more and register at [bestpracticenet.co.uk/speech-and-language-support-practitioner-apprenticeship](https://bestpracticenet.co.uk/speech-and-language-support-practitioner-apprenticeship)

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