

# Speech & Language Support Practitioner

## LEVEL 5 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMME

Empowering educational excellence through advanced skills.

**82%**

**OF OUR LEARNERS**

say that LMP programmes prepared them for success in their future career.

### INVEST IN YOUR TEAM

- High Quality Training
- Industry Relevant Content
- Commitment to Excellence
- Expert Support and Mentoring
- Excellent Safeguarding and Wellbeing
- Focus on Personal and Professional Development

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## PROGRAMME SUMMARY



Apprenticeship level  
**Level 5**



Typical duration  
**18 months**



Training method  
**Blended learning**



Assessment method  
**Professional discussion  
underpinned by a  
portfolio of Evidence and  
Q&A**



Cost/funding value  
**£0/£12,000**



EPA organisation  
**NQual**

## About the Programme

Support pupils with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN) through bespoke training for teaching assistants. Delivered in partnership with Speech & Language link this programme helps to equip teaching assistants with the necessary skills and experience to support Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) pupils.

## Who is this programme for?

This programme is designed for teaching assistants and support staff who want to develop specialist expertise in speech, language and communication, and play a more impactful role in supporting pupils' learning, participation and outcomes.

## Employer Benefits

Speech, language and communication needs are now the most common type of SEND in England, with **over 1 in 4 pupils on SEN support identified with SLCN**. That means schools need staff with the right knowledge and practical expertise to spot needs early, put effective support in place and help pupils access learning with confidence.

By investing in a Speech & Language Support Practitioner your school can further support pupils with complex needs with in-house expertise.

Without trained staff, speech, language and communication needs can be missed or misunderstood, creating barriers to progress across the curriculum and affecting behaviour, wellbeing and participation in school life.

The Department for Education has already recognised the importance of this area through national investment in early identification and intervention. At the same time, Ofsted expects schools to identify and address barriers to learning as part of inclusive practice. For schools, that creates a clear need for specialist expertise in this area.

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## Typical Job Roles

Speech and Language Therapy Assistants, Pastoral and Inclusion Staff, Learning Support Assistants (LSAs), SEND Teaching Assistant.

## Progression Routes

The Speech & Language Support Practitioner programme offers a solid foundation in educational support, and there are several routes you can take to progress in education. Here are some common career paths and steps you could consider:

Teacher Training (Qualified Teacher Status - QTS) to become a fully qualified teacher, Specialist Roles in Education, Coordinator (SENCO), Pastoral Support Lead, Learning Mentor, Leadership and Management & Specialised Support and Therapy Roles.

## Career Pathways



**Speech & Language  
Support Practitioner**  
Level 5



**Pastoral Support Lead**



**Teacher Training (Qualified  
Teacher Status - QTS)**

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# Learner Benefits

- 
-  **A big step up:** and a brilliant opportunity for professional and personal growth.
  -  **Specialist Expertise:** Learn in-depth strategies for supporting learners with specific needs
  -  **Confident Intervention Delivery:** You'll be trained to plan, deliver, and evaluate structured interventions that genuinely make a difference.
  -  **Stronger Understanding of Learning:** Gain insights into how children and young people develop, learn, and overcome barriers.
  -  **Step Into Senior Roles:** A Level 5 qualification prepares you for higher-responsibility roles, such as HLTA, pastoral lead, SEN support specialist, or intervention coordinator.
  -  **Gateway to Teaching or Further Study:** You can use your Level 5 as a stepping stone toward teacher training, SENDCo support roles, or Level 6/degree-level study.
  -  **Learn While You Work:** This Level 5 programme is designed to fit around your current job, so you can immediately apply what you're learning.
  -  **Recognised Qualification:** upon completion of this programme, you will receive a nationally recognised certification.
  -  **Ongoing support:** access to a LMP Tutor providing 1-2-1 support throughout your Course.
  -  **Pride in Professionalism:** You're not "just a TA"—you're a trained, specialist practitioner with real impact and value.

## What will you learn

Through the Level 5 Speech & Language Support Practitioner Apprenticeship you will develop specialist knowledge of speech, language and communication and learn how to apply it with confidence in the classroom, helping pupils access learning, participate more fully and make stronger progress. Alongside this, you will build the wider skills of a Specialist Teaching Assistant, so you can support individual needs, work effectively with others and contribute to inclusive practice across your school.



## Off the job training

Off-the-job hours are a vital part of this apprenticeship. Training is directly relevant to the programme and can take many forms, including:

- Individual study time for reflection and growth
- Apprenticeship tutor sessions and webinars
- Group learning opportunities (like inset days)
- Shadowing experienced colleagues
- Mentoring from line managers
- 1:1 performance reviews and feedback
- Attending meetings and briefings
- Learning new policies
- Relevant YouTube/TV shows
- Professional development
- Online courses
- Enrichment activities
- Research and learning
- Collaborative planning/resource preparation

At LMP, the supportive tutors will work closely with you to create a personalised training plan that meets all requirements for this programme.



**Striving for a Distinction** - we provide distinction criteria for all apprentices and encourage everyone to strive for the best outcome.

## End point assessment

End-point assessment (EPA) is **an independent assessment that takes place at the end of the apprenticeship training**. This is to test that the apprentice is competent in their occupation. All apprentices must complete an EPA. There are a variety of assessment methods to test apprentices' competency.

## Gateway

Gateway takes place before an EPA can start. LMP Education will work with the employer to **review their apprentice's knowledge, skills and behaviours**. This period of time is used to see if the apprentice has met the requirements of the apprenticeship set out in the apprenticeship standard, and they are ready to take the assessment.

## Functional Skills

LMP Education provides functional skills support to all our learners. While functional skills are no longer a requirement for learners who are 19+, LMP still offers functional skills training for those who choose to take the qualification.

**[Learn more about functional skills at LMP →](#)**



# MODULES INCLUDE

## What is SLCN (Speech, Language and Communication Needs)?

**Content includes:** What we Mean When we Talk About SLCN, Key Terminology Related to SLCN & The Prevalence of SLCN in Children and the Impact these Difficulties can have on Long-term Life Chances and Outcomes

## Development of speech and language skills

**Content includes:** Typical Development of Speech and Language Skills, The Skills Involved in Processing Language & Typical Development of Attention and Listening Skills

## Creating a Communication Supportive Environment

**Content includes:** What is a Communication Supportive Environment, Why it is Important, and How it helps Promote Inclusion, Why Using a "Whole Setting Approach" Supports Unidentified Needs and Benefits all Children within the Setting & Looking at Core Strategies to Support all Children in their Language Development.

## Identifying SLCN and Taking Action

**Content includes:** Exploring Possible "Red Flags" or "Common Indicators" that Might Suggest Difficulties in a Child's Language Development, Thinking about the "Wider Picture" by Understanding the Link Between Communication Difficulties and Behaviour & What to do if you have Concerns About a Child's Possible SLCN.

# Why LMP Education

LMP Education is an award winning training provider. Our programmes are designed to support both learners and employers in training and upskilling talent across industries. We have a team of expert tutors to support learners at each step of the way on programme and beyond.



**LMP EDUCATION**  
TRAINING PROVIDER

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## Hear from the experts

“Skilled Teaching Assistants (TAs) and other support staff can profoundly shape outcomes for pupils with SLCN. Our Speech & Language Support Practitioner Apprenticeship - enriched with content developed by experienced Speech and Language Therapists from Speech & Language Link - empowers learners with the insight, confidence and practical tools to transform support in the classroom.”



- Sophie Mustoe-Playfair

**Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist, Speech & Language Link**



## Work with Us

We can support you and your organisation to use the power of apprenticeships. LMP Education is a registered market leading training provider for Teaching apprenticeships. Our team can support you with recruiting an new apprentice or upskilling existing staff members. Benefit from our free recruitment service and book a discovery call today to find out more about this programme.



**Employers - book a discovery call  
with an apprenticeship expert**

[bit.ly/book-lmp-call](https://bit.ly/book-lmp-call)



**Candidates - enrol today online  
check website for cohort start date**

[bit.ly/lmp-speech](https://bit.ly/lmp-speech)

