

Ms Deeba Akram

CV

PRINCIPAL PROFESSIONAL SPECIALISMS

Speech and Language Therapist

MSc, BMedSci (Speech)

QUALIFICATIONS & ACCREDITATION

- MSc Human Communication Sciences Research, University of Sheffield, 2006
- BMedSci (Speech), University of Sheffield, 2003
- Bond Solon Expert Witness Training (Courtroom Skills & Excellence in Report Writing)
- ELKLAN Tutor
- SCERTS, PECS, Attention Autism, Lidcombe Programme, Makaton Signing (L1 & L2)
- Developmental Language Disorders Masterclass (Susan Ebbels)
- Aqua NHS Quality Improvement

OTHER KEY INFORMATION

- Fluent in Urdu and Punjabi – assessment and therapy delivered bilingually

PAST & PRESENT POSITIONS

- **Consultant Speech and Language Therapist & Managing Director**, Stepping Stones Speech and Language Therapy, 2018–Present
 - Leads independent service delivering strategic consultancy, clinical assessment and training across the North West
 - Specialist bilingual assessments for children aged 2–19
- **Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist**, Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, 2015–2018
 - Strategic lead across seven academies in an educational trust
 - Delivered training and assessments for pupils with DLD, ASD and complex needs
 - Mentored colleagues on bilingual service delivery
- **Specialist Speech and Language Therapist**, Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust, 2003–2014
 - Led identification and assessment of bilingual pupils in partnership with local education teams
- **Independent Speech and Language Therapist**, Various Clients and Local Authorities, 2009–2018
- **Delivered bespoke assessments and therapy across medico-legal, education and rehabilitation settings**
 - Clients included Slater & Gordon Lawyers, Irwin Mitchell, Bush & Co, and Northern Case Management

MEMBERSHIPS OF PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS

- Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)
- Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT)

MEDICO-LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Deeba Akram is a multi award-winning Consultant Speech and Language Therapist with over 21 years' experience, including more than 15 years preparing assessments and reports for medico-legal cases and SEND Tribunals. She is regularly instructed by legal firms, local authorities and rehabilitation providers to assess children and young people with a wide range of communication needs.

She delivers detailed, evidence-based assessments for children aged 2–19 with DLD, ASD and acquired brain injury. She is trained through Bond Solon and has given oral evidence in SEND Tribunals.