

WHAT'S
GONNA DO?



BECOMING A SPEECH LANGUAGE THERAPIST COULD B 4 U

"My career allows me to be around people everyday. I love working within a team and helping people of all ages to achieve a better quality of life. It is a rewarding career and one that constantly challenges me."

Jessie, speech language therapist for Counties Manukau District Health Board

Q What does a speech language therapist do?

Q What subjects do I need to take at school?

Q How do I get into it?

Q Will I get a job after studying?

Q Where can I find out more information?



Do you like helping other people? Do you communicate well with others? Are you interested in learning how the human body works?

If you answered yes, then SPEECH LANGUAGE THERAPY could B 4 U!

What does a speech language therapist do?

A speech language therapist assesses, diagnoses and treats people who have communication and swallowing impairments. (Note – they are not speech and drama teachers and are not concerned with getting people to speak nicely.)

Speech language therapists work in the community, schools and hospitals with people who have had a stroke, brain injury or cancer. They work with children who suffer from hearing loss, a stutter or autism. They also work with babies who have difficulty feeding, have a cleft palate or are premature.

What subjects do I need to take at school?

Science (in particular biology), English, statistics, calculus, Te Reo Māori and other languages are all good subjects to take.

How do I get into it?

You need to do a Bachelor of Speech Language Therapy (4 years) at Massey University (Albany campus) or the University of Canterbury.

Post graduate students can also do a Masters of Speech Language Therapy Practice at the University of Auckland.

Check out the accompanying “Health Occupations Summary” for a more detailed list of courses available and entry requirements.

Will I get a job after studying?

You will have an excellent opportunity to find a job as there is a global shortage of speech language therapists.

Where can I find out more information?

Massey University

Website: www.massey.ac.nz

Email: contact@massey.ac.nz

Tel: 0800 MASSEY

Text: 5222

Webchat: chat.massey.ac.nz

University of Canterbury

Website: www.cmds.canterbury.ac.nz

Email: info@canterbury.ac.nz

Tel: 0800 VARSITY

University of Auckland

Website: www.psych.auckland.ac.nz/slt/mslt.htm

Other useful websites: www.nzsta-speech.org.nz

Careers websites: www.cmdhb.org.nz/careers

www.healthcareers.org.nz

www.kiwicareers.govt.nz

www.kiwiquals.govt.nz

For any other questions call Counties Manukau District Health Board on (09) 259 5052 to speak with someone about careers or email careers@cmdhb.org.nz.