



23 August 2024

### Part-time MMedSci Speech and Language Therapy

Dear Incoming MMedSci (part-time) Student,

Welcome to the MMedSci Speech and Language Therapy (part-time) course. I am looking forward to meeting you, and would like to take this opportunity to provide some preliminary information which will help you to prepare to join our department.

With this letter, you have received some useful documents, including:

- The **Part-time MMedSci Programme Handbook from 2023-24**. This is for reference only as there may be changes for the 2024-25 academic year. However, you may find the document useful for understanding the course structure and key areas you will be studying.
- A **draft timetable for semester 1**. Please note that **there may still be changes to this** as we await confirmation of room bookings, however this will give you an idea of what a typical week may look like, and the modules you will be undertaking in semester 1. You are expected to be available for study and placements **Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays** in semester 1.
- A **reading/resource list** including books and links to videos and websites. This list is provided as a response to previous requests from applicants, but any prior reading is **completely optional** and not expected. Purchasing books in advance is not necessary, texts will be available via the University Library once you have registered.

#### Key dates for your diary

Intro Week:	23 to 27 September 2024	1 week
Semester One:	30 September to 20 December 2024	12 weeks
Christmas Holidays:	21 Dec 2024 to 19 January 2025	4 weeks
Semester One exam period:	20 January to 7 Feb 2025	3 weeks
Semester Two:	10 February to 4 April 2025	8 weeks
Easter Holidays:	5 April to 27 April 2025	3 weeks
Semester Two:	28 April to 23 May 2025	4 weeks
Semester Two exam period:	26 May to 13 June 2025	3 weeks
Summer Placements and exam resits	16 June to 19 September 2025	

(Please see <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/about/dates/current-and-future-semester> for more information)



## Intro Week

We look forward to welcoming you to the university during **Intro Week - 23rd-27th September 2024**. There are a range of important activities during Intro Week which will prepare you for starting the course. You may also receive some information from the central registration team about other central university events, but **in terms of activities specifically for the speech and language therapy programme, please follow information in this letter.**

## Intro week timetable

Monday 23rd September	Tuesday 24th September	Thursday 26th September
<b>10am-1pm</b> <b>Welcome morning part 1</b> with Hattie Powis and Dr Caroline Haw (MMedSci SLT Programme Directors). <b>Venue:</b> The Wave, Workroom 2	<b>10am-1pm</b> <b>Welcome morning part 2</b> with Hattie Powis and Dr Caroline Haw (MMedSci SLT Programme Directors). <b>Venue:</b> The Wave, Seminar room 3  <b>Please bring your own laptop to this session</b> , if you have one. Don't worry if this isn't possible. Please contact <a href="mailto:h.powis@sheffield.ac.uk">h.powis@sheffield.ac.uk</a> if you need to borrow a device.	<b>9.30-10:30am</b> <b>Introduction to learning technology</b> with Jesrine Darrington <b>Venue:</b> The Wave, Lecture Theatre 4  <b>Please bring your own laptop</b> , if you have one. Don't worry if this isn't possible.  <hr/> <b>11am-12pm</b> <b>Meet staff and other students</b> <b>Venue:</b> The Wave, Foyer A and Workroom 1  Please join us for an informal get-together 😊
<b>Afternoon</b> - Your Occupational Health and immunisation and/or DBS ID check appointments may be scheduled on Monday 23rd or Tuesday 24th September. Individual appointments will be sent via email.	<b>Afternoon</b> - Your Occupational Health and immunisation and/or DBS ID check appointments may be scheduled on Monday 23rd or Tuesday 24th September. Individual appointments will be sent via email.	<b>1pm-3pm</b> <b>Race and Consent sessions</b> <b>Venue:</b> The Wave, Lecture Theatre 4

During Intro Week I also encourage you to make time to familiarise yourself with the campus and facilities, e.g. [Students' Union](#) and the [libraries](#). You may find this [University Location Map](#) useful. You can get a hard copy of the map by visiting the Student Services Information Desk (SSiD) in the [Students' Union building](#).

## Occupational Health and Immunisations

All students must complete an NHS Occupational Health assessment prior to starting the programme. Successful completion of the Occupational Health process is a prerequisite for this course. You will be invited via email to complete an online pre-course health screening questionnaire and provide a record of



your previous immunisations. If you have not received this email by 25th August, please check your spam box. If you still can't find it, please contact [ahpnm@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:ahpnm@sheffield.ac.uk). **Please complete the questionnaire as soon as possible** so there are no delays to starting your course. You may also need to be seen in person or have a telephone consultation with a member of the Occupational Health team to discuss the information you have disclosed (as required).

If needed following your health screening questionnaire, you may have an individual appointment to receive any required immunisations (which may involve having injections), on Monday 23rd or Tuesday 24th September. You will receive your appointment details via email: you must attend this appointment, as immunisations are required in order to go on clinical placements.

### DBS Checks

During Intro Week you may be invited to a short appointment to have your ID checked as part of your DBS checks. If this is required, you will receive an appointment time and location via email. This appointment is only required for students without an electronic passport (a passport with an embedded microchip) who were therefore unable to complete the Digital Identity Check online.

### Mandatory Pre-Placement Training

You will receive information via email about some mandatory online training courses which you need to complete before starting placements. Please try to get these done as soon as possible so there are no delays to starting your placements.

### Summer Block Placements

As this is a **calendar year course** you are expected to be available over the summer break to complete your block summer placements (2 x 10 day blocks in year one). These placements will usually take place in our placement region (e.g. Sheffield, Chesterfield, Rotherham, Barnsley, Doncaster, Nottinghamshire). You will be given the dates for your summer block placements around Easter 2025. **We do our best to inform students of dates as soon as possible. However, it is important for students to realise the many variables and challenges involved in securing and allocating placements (this is a national issue) and therefore to be patient with this process.** We cannot provide any more specific information about placement dates or locations at this point, but please be reassured that we inform students of their placement allocations as early as possible.

The two block-placements sometimes occur sequentially, i.e., consecutive weeks, but are more likely to be split across the summer. Part-time students are only expected to attend summer block placements 3 days a week, but students may be able to arrange their summer block placements full-time (i.e. 5 days a week) if they prefer. This is dependent on the availability of the student and the placement provider. As the NHS moves to seven day working there may be placements which include weekend days. Although this has not been common so far, we are starting to see services request this. This will always be discussed with students as placements are arranged.

### Uniform for clinical placements

Uniform may be required for some clinical placements; we provide students with two white polo shirts with 'Speech and Language Therapy Student' embroidered onto the top. Please keep an eye out for further emails re: ordering your polo shirts.



### August resit period

Although we hope this will not be necessary, **you need to ensure that you are available during the resit exam period in August in case you need to resit an exam.**

### Academic Support

To help you to transition to Masters level study at the University of Sheffield, we recommend that you engage with the Masters [online general study skills course](#) from our 301 Academic Skills Centre.

### University Registration

You will have received information directly from the registration team but the following link will also provide some advance information for you to look at: [Registration for new students](#). During registration, new students are asked to identify optional modules that they plan to undertake. **The MMedSci has no optional components and you do not need to select options.**

Please do contact me directly via email if you have any urgent queries that need addressing before we meet in Intro Week. I very much look forward to seeing you soon.

With all best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hattie Powis".

**Hattie Powis**

Programme Director for the MMedSci part-time programme

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Please find a map below for the social event on Thursday 26th September, 11.00 - 12.00 in The Wave on Whitham Road (S10 2AH). This is a very informal opportunity to meet staff and new students from the BMedSci and MMedSci programmes!

