

Fitness to Practise Statement

1. Programme Name(s): MSc Speech and Language Therapy (Professional Qualification)

2. Professional Fitness to Practise Requirements

The aim of the MSc Speech and Language Therapy (Professional Qualification) is to develop excellent graduates who enable the individual and the wider community to optimize their health and wellbeing and to prepare scientifically qualified practitioners who are ready to enter the challenging professional field of Speech and Language Therapy. Students are expected to act within and are assessed on their ability to meet the Standards of Proficiency identified by CORU.

Speech and Language Therapists Registration Board – Standards of Proficiency for Speech and Language Therapists (2018), retrieved January 2021 from: <https://www.coru.ie/files-education/sltrb-standards-of-proficiency-for-speech-and-language-therapists.pdf>

These consider the following domains, which are used to assess the students' achievements of professional competency:

Domain 1: Professional autonomy and accountability

Domain 2: Interpersonal and professional relationships

Domain 3: Effective communication

Domain 4: Personal and professional development

Domain 5: Provision of quality services

Domain 6: Knowledge, understanding and skills

3. Professional Competencies

The two codes below outline the standards of ethical behaviour and conduct that are expected of students of the Msc Speech and Language Therapy (Professional Qualification).

i. Irish Association of Speech and Language Therapists Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics (2015). Retrieved January 2021 from:

<https://www.iaslt.ie/documents/public-information/IASLT/Code%20of%20Professional%20Conduct%20and%20Ethics%202015%20FINAL.pdf>

ii. CORU Speech and Language Registration Board Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics (2019). Retrieved January 2021 from

<https://www.coru.ie/files-codes-of-conduct/sltrb-code-of-professional-conduct-and-ethics-for-speech-and-language-therapists.pdf>

These are the areas covered in the CORU Speech and Language Registration Board Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics:

Conduct:

Act in the best interests of service users

Respect the confidentiality and privacy of service users

Maintain high standards of personal conduct and behaviour

Use social media responsibly

Comply with obligations regarding registration

Performance

Address health issues related to your fitness to practise

*Subject to final approval at Academic Council- May 2023

Obey laws, regulations and guidelines
Comply with requirements for the protection of children and vulnerable adults
Act within the limits of your knowledge, skills, competence and experience
Keep your professional knowledge and skills up to date
Obtain consent from service users
Assess service users' capacity to consent where necessary
Communicate effectively with service users and others involved in their care
Act in accordance with the principles of open disclosure
Assist, advise and support colleagues, recently qualified registrants and students
Teach, supervise and assess students and other professionals
Supervise tasks that you delegate to others
Keep accurate records
Assess health, safety and welfare risks
Raise concerns about safety and quality of care
Maintain adequate professional indemnity insurance

Ethics

Demonstrate ethical awareness
Respect the rights and dignity of service users
Avoid conflicts of interest
Undertake research in an ethical manner
Make sure that any advertising is truthful, accurate, lawful and not misleading

Responsibilities specific to Speech and Language Therapists

Maximise health, welfare, protection and safety of service users with regard to communication abilities
Maximise health, welfare, protection and safety of service users with regard to feeding, eating, drinking and swallowing

4. Health Requirements

Professional settings and practice will generally require the student to maintain a level of good health to ensure the student and service users are not adversely affected by any health condition that may arise. As part of a general health protection, the University and/or the external placement provider may require students to undergo health screening or other forms of health assessment.

Students undertaking programmes with a vaccine and/or health requirement will be required to comply with the vaccination and/or health requirements of the University, as may be updated from time to time.

In addition, students undertaking programmes with an external placement will be required to comply with the vaccination and/or health requirements of the external placement provider, as may be updated from time to time.

All requirements are listed in the Table below.

Any restriction and supporting justification on students with disabilities enrolling on this programme and seeking to avail of accommodations provide by Disability Support Services should also be listed below in the table below.

<i>Vaccination and/or health requirements of the University in relation to this programme of study</i>	<i>Vaccination and/or health requirements of the external placement provider in relation to this programme of study</i>	<i>Restriction and supporting justification on students with disabilities enrolling on this programme</i>
	Available at this link: SAH Health Screening and Immunisation Protocol 2022-23	

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