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## Professional Experience

Sandra is an accomplished speech and language therapy with almost three decades of experience spanning a variety of clinical and educational settings. She has extensive training and experience in the assessment and management of acute and chronic neonatal and paediatric feeding difficulties and dysphagia, including paediatric videofluoroscopy swallow studies, paediatric critical care and paediatric trauma & neurorehabilitation. She is equipped with a deep knowledge of child development and is highly proficient conducting speech and language assessment. Sandra also brings specialist expertise in congenital and acquired gastroenterological conditions impacting upon eating. This includes gastro-oesophageal reflux, nasogastric tube feeding & gastrostomy, paediatric allergy and associated feeding difficulties such as feeding aversion, faltering weight, selective eating, avoidant restrictive food intake disorder (ARFID) and sensory-based feeding difficulties, including those related to autism.

As an Expert Witness for Harrison Associates, Sandra utilises her specialist expertise to provide insightful and objective reports. She is fully trained in the Civil Procedure Rules, including relevant revisions as they arise, and diligently maintains her continuing professional development by attending a range of specialist conferences and training courses.

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## Specialisms

- Speech & Language Therapy
- Neonatal & Paediatric Feeding Difficulties
- Dysphagia
- Paediatric Critical Care
- Gastroenterological Conditions

## Qualifications

- BA (Hons) Speech & Language Therapy

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## Career History

### Independent Clinical Specialist Speech and Language Therapist

**2009 – Current**

- Provides assessment and intervention in:
  - ◆ Infant and paediatric feeding
  - ◆ Neonatal and paediatric dysphagia (swallowing disorder)
  - ◆ Complex feeding, including gut issues, gastro-oesophageal reflux, allergic gut disease and enteral feeding, including nasogastric tube and gastrostomy feeding
  - ◆ Sensory-based feeding difficulties, including ARFID

### Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust (St Mary's Hospital)

**2004 - 2022**

### Senior Clinical Service Lead (Paediatric Acute Speech & Language Therapist)

- Held comprehensive clinical management responsibility for the Paediatric Acute Speech & Language Therapy Service.
- This included Paediatric Intensive Care Unit, General Paediatric Medical Wards, outpatient and SLT input into the Paediatric Allergy Feeding and Videofluoroscopy Swallow clinics.



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## Career History Continued

- Accountable for day to day team leadership, writing strategic business plans, quality assurance, continuous improvement, definition of clinical guidelines and standards operating procedures and management of service delivery, safety and clinical governance.
- Supervise junior staff and students and deliver a wide variety of training and educational activities.
- Throughout her time in this position, Sandra has focused on driving evidence-based practice and exceptional standards of quality, safety, efficiency and cross-disciplinary collaboration.
- Managed the delivery of a project exploring the available NHS speech and language therapy pathways for infants and children with feeding and swallowing difficulties across North-West London.

**Senior Clinical Lead (Acute Speech & Language Therapy)  
St Mary's & Royal Brompton NHS Trusts**

**2004 - 2007**

- Responsible for operational and clinical management of the Paediatric Acute Speech and Language Therapy Service across St Mary's and Royal Brompton Hospitals.

**Specialist Paediatric Speech & Language Therapist  
St Mary's NHS Trust**

**1999 - 2004**

- Split post between the Child Development Centre involving assessment and management of an independent caseload of predominantly pre-school children with severe and complex special needs (including learning difficulties, physical disabilities, social communication disorder and feeding difficulties), and Responsibility for Coordination and management of all acute paediatric speech and language Therapy Services at St Mary's Hospital.

**Locum Speech & Language Therapist  
Various**

**1997 - 1999**

**Speech & Language Therapist  
Johannesburg General Hospital (South Africa)**

**1996 - 1997**

**Speech & Hearing Therapist  
School for Educationally Disadvantaged Children**

**1995 - 1995**

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## Memberships

- Health & Care Professions Council
- Royal College of Speech & Language Therapist

## Ages Covered

- Paediatrics