

Definition and Principles of Continuing Professional Development

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Definition

Continuing professional development (CPD) is defined as a range of learning activities whereby speech and language therapists (logopedists) maintain and enhance their professional competences throughout their professional careers to ensure good practice.

Principles of CPD

1. There is an ethical obligation of SLTs to regularly enhance their professional competence by CPD as stated in the CPLoL code of ethics.
2. CPD should complement and update knowledge and skills but not replace initial education in SLT.
3. CPD should eventually be part of the professional accreditation process and career development.
4. In order to ensure accessibility a wide range of professionally relevant learning activities should be recognized as CPD.
5. The content of the CPD courses and other activities should be based on
 - the current needs of the professionals,
 - evidence based practice,
 - up to date scientific knowledge,
 - professional standards of SLTs.They should clearly state learning outcomes.
6. If there is an accrediting body in a country that body should regulate CPD activities in collaboration with professional SLT associations.