

Maximise your membership

Your membership

Your growth

Your future



Who we are

We're RCOT, the Royal College of Occupational Therapists.

We've championed the profession and the people behind it for over 90 years; today, we're thriving with over 36,000 members.



Who are you?

- What's your name?
- What's your role?
- What do you want to get out of today?



Your membership

With more than ever before, including innovative tools, vibrant networks, endless growth opportunities and support when you need it, you'll have everything you need to achieve your best.

We've got your back and we'll help you flourish.



Your professional home

Belong, connect, support and
celebrate with RCOT



RCOT Communities: a new place to connect

- A space for meaningful professional relationships
- Inclusive and accessible for all members
- Connect through shared challenges, aspirations, and values
- Join member-led professional, practice, regional and equity, diversity and belonging (EDB) networks
- Access tailored activities and resources shaped by member insights
- Engage flexibly – share resources, ask questions, co-create ideas
- Learn from diverse experiences and perspectives
- Collaborate to drive innovation and influence the future of occupational therapy in the UK

The screenshot displays the RCOT Communities website interface. At the top, a navigation bar includes links for 'Welcome', 'Noticeboard', 'Find others', 'Join a community', 'Improvement projects', 'Get support', 'Feedback', and 'Admin Panel'. The main header features the title 'RCOT Communities' and the tagline 'A place for RCOT members to connect, collaborate and learn'. Below this, a personalized welcome message for 'Nikki' is shown, including a profile picture, a 'View Profile' button, and a 'Profile completion 91%' indicator. A yellow banner encourages users to 'Make the most of your RCOT Communities experience' and provides a 'Complete the welcome journey' button. The interface is divided into three main sections: 'Your profile' with a checklist of items (some marked with 'X' and some with '✓') and a 'View your profile' button; 'Communities' featuring two smartphone icons displaying '14.43' and a 'Connect with a community' button; and 'Noticeboard' with an illustration of people at a table and a 'View the noticeboard' button.

RCOT Practice Networks



Acute and
emergency care



Mental health

Children, young people
and families



Neurological practice

Dementia care



Palliative and end
of life care

Healthy ageing



Primary care

Inclusive built
Environments



Social care

Learning disabilities



Work and health

Long term conditions



RCOT Regional Networks



North West



Scottish Western



Scottish Northern



Scottish Eastern



Northern Ireland



Northern & Yorkshire



Wales (Cymru)



Trent



South West



West Midlands



South East



London



Eastern



RCOT Professional Networks

**Innovation
and
Improvement
Hub**

**Research
Connect**

**Independent
Practice**

Leadership

**Professional
Development**

**Artificial
Intelligence
and
Technology**

Sustainability

RCOT EDB networks



**LGBTQIA+
network**



**Disability
network**



**Carers
network**



**Black, Asian and
Minority Ethnic
(B.A.M.E) network**



**Interfaith
network**

Take a look at RCOT Communities



Get involved: Connect, grow and lead

- Networks are powerful spaces for learning, growth and leadership
- Reflect, share and learn through open, diverse conversations
- Access mentorship, peer support and sustainable CPD
- Solve problems, generate insights and stay up to date
- Get involved through RCOT Communities, events and volunteering



Pop it in the chat

Which networks on RCOT Communities will you join first?



Your future

Invest in your development with
RCOT



We know CPD is essential

We'll help you develop good CPD habits

to ensure safe and effective practice, and to comply with HCPC CPD standards



We'll support you to record your CPD

so you feel as prepared as possible for future CPD audits



We'll give you a place to record your reflections

to support your lifelong learning and career development

Support you to learn, grow and progress



Help you to understand and meet the HCPC CPD standards with your own CPD portfolio



Build your knowledge through evidence spotlights and practice guidelines



Improve your practice with access to our Digital Library and peer reviewed research with BJOT



Keep you up to date through our magazine, journal and newsletter



Plot your progress and journey through our Career Development Framework



Take the next step in your career with our easy-to-use jobs board

By your side

Feel confident knowing you
have support when you need it



Representation, professional advice, support, and insurance

- UNISON membership offers workplace representation, legal support and financial assistance for you and your family
- Professional Advisory Service helpline, guidance and support groups
- HCPC CPD audit support
- Professional Indemnity Insurance up to £10million per member
- Financial support through our hardship fund to keep you connected with your community

A union that stands with you

- Workplace representation with UNISON membership
 - Legal help for you at work and your family at home
 - Financial support and debt advice in times of need
 - Compensation for you and your family
 - Discounts including money off cars and holidays
 - Helpline open six days a week
 - Training to help develop your career
 - Support when you most need it



Your knowledge

Access exclusive resources and opportunities



Learn and research

- Events and learning opportunities – attend webinars, workshops and conferences.
- Access resources 24/7 to support your learning research or practice.
- New digital resource centre.
- Digital Library with online databases, books, journals, RCOT publications and theses – connected to Open Athens.
- Alongside the OT titles, you'll find topics such as leadership and equity, diversity and belonging

**Standards and
guidelines**

Digital Library

OT topics

**Practice
guidelines**

Student centre

Resource centre

Your essential updates and tools

- *OTnews*, your membership magazine
- Highlight, your monthly email update
- Supplier Directory, connecting you to trusted products and services.
- Social media stories and news
- R&D Bulletin, your research newsletter
- British Journal of Occupational Therapy (BJOT)



Pop it in the chat

How do you best absorb information from RCOT and others?



Supporting research and development



RCOT Digital Library

- Available 24/7
- Tailored & specialist
- All career stages

“I spend too much time looking for books and journals, so the Library will be really useful for my university studies and beyond.”

“I feel spoilt having this access to such a range of journals, I could not believe it when I graduated years ago that being alumni didn't mean access to the academic search engines ...”

RCOT Digital Library

- E-books
- Journals
- CINAHL, Medline & GreenFILE databases (linking to full text articles)
- Catalogue - including details of RCOT publications
- How-to guides
- Enquiry service

Supporting research

-  **Research Connect**  networking and events (cafes and webinars)
-  **Research and Innovation Fund**  funding research and innovation
-  **Evidence-based guidelines**  supporting evidence informed practice

Innovation

Innovation and Improvement Hub

- Share completed service innovation projects
- Submit an idea and access improvement coaching and more
- Network with other changemakers

Innovation Seed Fund

- Apply for up to £2K to test an evidence-informed improvement idea
- Deadline: Tuesday 31 March 2026

Pop it in the chat

Over the last 12 months – what's been your biggest achievement?



Your impact

Your membership helps drive
positive change



Leading the profession



Workforce Strategy and national action plans



Influencing policy and government across all four nations



Putting inclusion and EDB at the heart of everything we do



Raising awareness of the power of OT through our annual campaign and OT week



Funding to support research and innovation



Recognising excellence and lifetime achievement with our awards

Driving change for occupational therapy

By 2035 we will have an occupational therapy workforce that is:

- confident and skilled in championing inclusion
- based primarily within communities
- positioned to focus on prevention and early interventions
- putting occupations at the forefront of their practice



Your say

Shape the future of your
profession and your professional
body



Make your voice count

- Share your insights through consultations, surveys and RCOT Communities.
- Join networks, cafés and advisory groups.
- Collaborate on research, placements, and innovation.
- Support campaigns like The Power of OT and the Innovation and Improvement Hub.
- Shape national strategies and co-design change projects.
- Champion equity, diversity, and belonging in your practice.



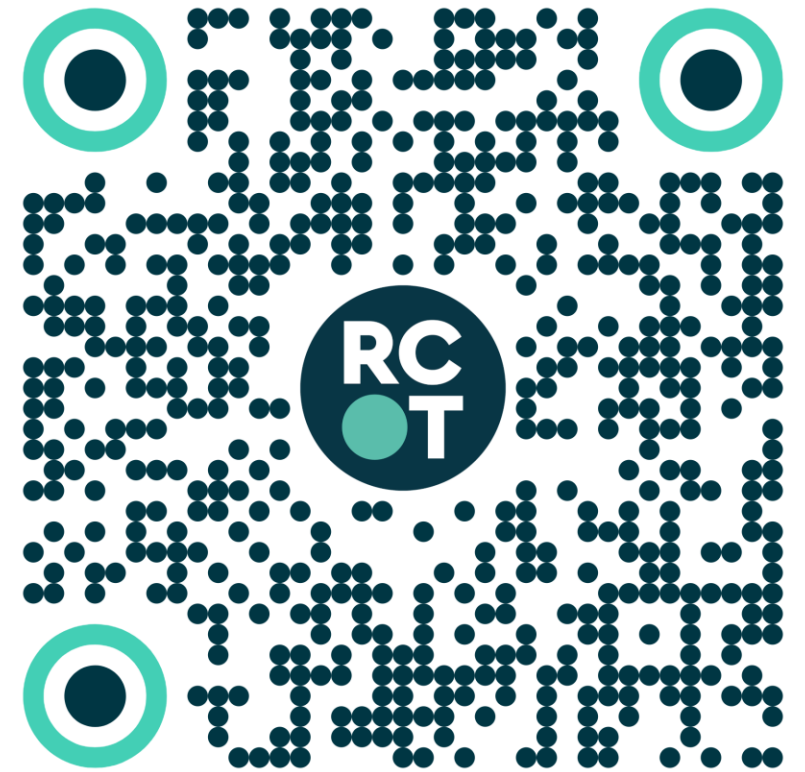
Your reputation

Celebrate your achievements
and those of your colleagues



Volunteer and be a change agent

- Shape the future: build vibrant, connected communities
- Develop new skills: leadership, collaboration and CPD
- Build strong connections with like-minded professionals
- Make an impact: lead initiatives that reflect your community's needs
- Gain recognition for your contributions



With you throughout your career

Celebrate your achievements
and those of your colleagues



Elevate your own and your peers' professional reputation

- Be proud of being part of your respected membership body.
- Become a volunteer, ambassador and changemaker.
- Get published in *OTnews* or on our website.
- Share your stories.
- Nominate peers, placement leads or lecturers for awards and vote for Council.
- Get involved in OT Week and our annual campaign and raise your and our professions' profile

Member of



Join our community today!



Connect and collaborate
Develop and thrive
Drive change



Events this spring...

**Maximise your membership:
RCOT Communities – build
confidence, connections and
growth – 1 April 2026**

**Spotlight on parenting as an
occupation – In-person – 20 April
2026**

Full calendar: rcot.co.uk/events



Questions