

Restarting services whilst minimising the risk of spreading Covid-19

We are restarting SLT services for a small number of children from the week beginning 20th July 2020. This will be for families where teletherapy and home programmes are less effective and will be agreed in discussion with parents. I will be checking my temperature every morning and I will be grateful if you and your child would do likewise before the sessions.

I will be wearing a full-face visor for the sessions and would ask for the **accompanying adult to wear a face mask.**

As 2metre social distancing is difficult to maintain during Speech and language therapy the following further mitigating actions will be undertaken by KSL. These include:

- Increasing the frequency of hand washing and surface cleaning
- Using back-to-back or side-to-side working (rather than face-to-face) wherever possible
- Reducing the number of people each person has contact with

Below is some information about the steps that you and the therapist will need to take to ensure that face to face sessions are safe for everyone.

If KSL comes to your home

- Please clean all surfaces in the immediate therapy area and any toys agreed for use prior to the visit before the therapist's arrival
- Please leave internal doors open. The therapist will use elbows to push doors if necessary
- When they first arrive, please show the therapist to where they can wash their hands. If you don't have paper towels, they will use their own
- The therapist will wash their hands or use hand sanitiser every 30 minutes
- If the therapist needs to blow their nose, cough or sneeze, they will wash or sanitise their hands afterwards and dispose of handtowels and tissues in their own bag which they will take away
- You, your child and the therapist will need to be the only people in the room during the session and we will try to stick to recommended distancing wherever possible. We realise this can be difficult with young children
- The therapist is likely to involve you in therapy, in order to give your child objects or pictures and help them stay on task
- The therapist will wash their hands or use hand sanitiser again just before leaving
- The therapist's toys will be cleaned after each visit. We recommend you clean all of your own toys and surfaces that the therapist touched



- If you have a sturdy table in a shaded outdoor space, which you feel is private enough for neighbours not to overhear conversations, then we can potentially use this when it is not windy or raining. (during the summer this would be KSL preferred therapy venue)

If you are attending KSL clinic room

- The therapist will wash their hands between appointments
- You and your child will be shown to the bathroom to wash your hands on arrival or be given the opportunity to use hand sanitiser.
- The door and window for the therapy room will be kept open during sessions. This obviously decreases the privacy of the session. If this is a problem then we will not be able to meet in the clinic room.
- Handles and surfaces, including the doorbell, toilet and basin will be cleaned between appointments
- Internal doors to the clinic and toilet will be left open
- The therapist will wash their hands or use hand sanitiser every 30 minutes
- If the therapist needs to blow their nose, cough or sneeze, they will wash or sanitise their hands afterwards
- You, your child and the therapist will need to be the only people in the room during the session and we will try to stick to the recommended distancing wherever possible. We realise this can be difficult with young children
- The therapist is likely to involve you in therapy, in order to give your child objects or pictures and help them stay on task
- Please bring a sealed water bottle as we are not able to offer water for the time being. No juice please
- You will be invited to wash your hands on leaving or be given the opportunity to use hand sanitiser.
- Our toys will be cleaned after each visit. We recommend you clean all of your own toys that the therapist touched.

If we attend an educational setting

In addition to following the above guidelines, we will contact the setting in advance for their safety guidelines which we will adhere to.

If anyone in your family becomes unwell

It is very important to let us know before a session, if anyone in your family is unwell with Covid-19 symptoms, or a temperature or a cough.

If you or a family member develops symptoms within 7 days of a session, you **must** advise Kew Speech and Language as soon as possible by phone or email in order that the therapist can cancel appointments and self-isolate.



Kew Speech and Language



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If the therapist becomes unwell with a new continuous cough, loss of sense of smell or a high temperature or has had any contact with clients in the previous 7 days, who have become unwell, Kew Speech and Language will inform you by phone or other instant means as soon as possible.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Diana Waha on 07980 935669 or diana@kewspeechandlanguage.uk.



Risk Assessment

Below is a summary of the discussion you have had with your therapist around risk. This is assessed on a 3-point risk assessment scale. We have considered whether there is a high risk to your child of not intervening (e.g. associated with high levels of distress, or there being evidence that difficulties would become more severe), medium risk to the child of not intervening, or low risk to the child of not intervening. We are also taking parental levels of worry into account as part of the risk assessment.

Name of child:

Risk discussed with:

Level of risk estimated & reasons:

Rationale for face to face sessions:

Date:

Date of review (3 months later):

Signed:

