



Policy for Carrying Out Speech and Language Therapy sessions in school in the Context of COVID-19 Pandemic

Having first established that face to face contact is necessary and having completed the RCSLT risk assessments these are the mitigations and protocols for Sarah Kelly to carry out face to face Speech and Language Therapy in your school. These are in line with the current government and RCSLT guidelines (*last updated September 2020*)

School Setting

1. What are the risks?

COVID-19 infection and transmission

2. Who might be harmed and how?

Children, parents/carers and other members of the household or bubble

Sarah and other members of her household or bubble

While no party will knowingly put the other at risk, there is the risk of transmitting the virus asymptotically

3. What action should be taken to control the risk?

Sarah will not visit if she or anyone in her household or bubble has symptoms of or a positive test result for COVID-19 and is self isolating.

The school will ensure that Sarah is made aware of any positive test result within the school.

If Sarah receives a positive test result for COVID-19 following her visit, she will inform the school directly as well as using the NHS Track and Trace service.

Sarah will follow the policies and protocols of your school that are already in place to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 such as hand washing policies, movement around the site etc.

In addition to these, there are those specific to the delivery Speech and Language Therapy:

- Sarah will visit only one setting per day to reduce the risk of transmission to other settings.
- In consultation with school staff, Sarah will work only with children from one 'bubble' in any one visit to reduce the risk of transmission to children and adults in another 'bubble'.
- The setting will provide Sarah with access to a suitable, well ventilated space to work in.
- Sarah will wash/sanitise her hands prior to working with each child and at the end of each session.
- The child will be asked to wash his/her hands or use hand sanitiser at the beginning and end of the session.

- Healthcare guidelines state that where 2m distance cannot be maintained, Sarah should use PPE as appropriate (see below)*

*There are considerations specific to the delivery of Speech and Language Therapy such as aerosol generation when articulating speech sounds. Sarah will use PPE appropriate to the session which may include a screen or visor. **NB: It is not possible to carry out speech and language therapy whilst wearing a face mask as this impedes communication, audibility and the necessary visual cues when articulating speech sounds. Clear face masks have not yet been approved as they do not meet the required health care safety standards**

- Where PPE is used, Sarah will clean or dispose of and change this between each child.
- Sarah will reduce, as far as possible, the equipment that a child will touch and will only use items that can be cleaned after use (eg. not paper resources).
- Furniture and equipment will be wiped down with disinfectant sanitiser between each child.
- All equipment will be washed and sanitised again once Sarah has returned to her office.
- If Sarah needs to share notes or resources, she will send these in an email following the session

Consent for Speech and Language Therapy to take place in school during the COVID-19 pandemic

Child's name _____ DOB _____

I have read and understand the COVID-19 risk assessment and policy provided by Sarah Kelly
Yes / No*

By signing below, I am giving consent for:

- Sarah Kelly to carry out Speech and Language Therapy sessions with my child in school
- Sarah Kelly to conduct the sessions without a face mask (although with a screen and visor as appropriate)
- Sarah Kelly to share the family's contact details with the NHS Track and Trace service in the event of a positive COVID-19 test result *(Sarah is registered as a data controller with the ICO and I can read her data protection and privacy policies on her website)*

Signature of parent / carer _____

Print name _____ Date _____

Contact telephone number _____ Email _____

Signature of member of school SMT _____

Print name _____ Date _____

**please delete as appropriate*