

Chatterbox Sussex SLT Ltd COVID-19 and Infection Control Policy

Date of Policy: 15/09/2020 **Updated:** 24/08/2021, 22/04/2022, 23/08/2023

To be reviewed: Annually

1. Chatterbox Sussex SLT will deliver **face-to-face appointments** if all parties due to be present at the appointment are well and **not displaying any symptoms of COVID-19** as described by www.nhs.uk:
 - a high temperature or shivering (chills)
 - a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
 - a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste
 - shortness of breath
 - feeling tired or exhausted
 - an aching body
 - a headache
 - a sore throat
 - a blocked or runny nose
 - loss of appetite
 - diarrhoea
 - feeling sick or being sick
2. The following steps will be taken to **mitigate the likelihood of transmission of any infections**:
 - a. All participants washing/sanitising hands before and after the contact
 - b. Good respiratory hygiene
 - c. Decontamination of any shared equipment in between client appointments
3. **A face mask will not be worn** by the SLT unless clients request this.
4. The day before a face-to-face contact, parents will be sent an **email reminder of the appointment**. Parents should get in touch with the SLT if anyone who will be present at the appointment is displaying any symptoms of COVID-19. If the child is well enough to attend the appointment and tests negatively on a lateral flow test the appointment we may agree that the appointment can still go ahead.
5. **Teletherapy and remote interventions** can be offered where one or both parties have COVID-19 but are well enough to attend appointments.
6. The **SLT will carry out a lateral flow test** if any symptoms of COVID-19 are experienced. All face-to-face contact will cease immediately on receipt of a positive result. Clients who may have been in contact with the SLT on the days prior to this will be contacted.
7. For **all other illnesses** please follow the NHS guidelines: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>. Your child should not attend a face-to-face appointment if they have had **sickness or diarrhoea in the previous 48 hours**.

If you are unsure whether your child should attend it is always best to contact the SLT to discuss this beforehand.