



16 December 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers

New guidelines for the running of therapy programs during school hours for 2021

As you may be aware, the advent of NDIS has led to a significant increase in requests for therapy programs to be conducted during school hours.

Holland Street School recognises that effective therapy services can strongly contribute to the lives of students and enhance the professional knowledge of our staff. However, there is now a strong need to carefully manage the requests that we are now receiving. I therefore write to advise that we have developed new guidelines to ensure in-school therapeutic programs, conducted by external agencies. E.g. Allegro, Able Kids, KZ Speech are clearly linked to, and will optimise IEP or ITP outcomes for the student and/or will enhance positive educational experiences. We will also be limiting the times that the therapists visit to reduce disruption to school curriculum delivery.

We will ensure that the therapy is:

- Implemented in ways that maximise student engagement in educational programs; and
- Carried out at times (and in ways) that will minimise disruption to classrooms and dependent on available space.

Commencing in Term 1, 2021 if you wish your child to receive therapy services during school hours, this will be the process:

1. All parents/caregivers/therapists must complete the attached 'Request for Service Provision by Therapist, Appendix 1' form and return it to the school.
2. Applications will be assessed by the Principal in liaison with the class teacher with reference to the above criteria and be either approved or rejected.
3. The school will then inform parents/caregivers of the outcome of their application(s) via email.
4. Approved applications will then be actioned by our Therapy Liaison Coordinator whose role it is to coordinate with teachers and therapist to establish mutually agreeable times for the implementation of the therapy.
5. A copy of your child's therapy plan (goals) is provided to the school.
6. If your child is absent from school, it is your responsibility to notify the Therapist/s. We do not track Therapist attendance.

I understand that the above represents several important changes and I thank you in advance for your support. Should you require any clarification, please do not hesitate to contact Rachel Rutter either via email: rachel.rutter@education.wa.edu.au; or telephone: (08) 9921 2342

All providers have been contacted via email regarding 2021 changes.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Rutter

Principal



Request for Therapy Service to be Conducted During School Hours

