

Talking Speech Therapy

Victoria McKinnon Blackburn

Safeguarding Policy

Talking Speech Therapy delivers independent speech and language therapy to children via teletherapy or in an educational setting. It is owned and directed by myself, Victoria McKinnon Blackburn, Speech and Language Therapist.

I am registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC), the professional body that regulates Standards of Proficiency for Speech and Language Therapists. My HCPC membership no is SL28414. I am a member of the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists and my membership no is RC0024161. I am also a member of the Association of Speech and Language Therapists in Independent Practice (ASLTIP).

The safety and wellbeing of everyone I work with is always paramount. I have completed the yearly mandatory training Safeguarding Level 3 for Adults and Safeguarding Level 3 for Children in June 2020. I participate in regular safeguarding supervision with an independent speech and language therapist.

I have an enhanced DBS check for both children and adults. My DBS Certificate no is 001698857965. I am registered on the annual update service and my update Service ID is C1054551113. This will enable schools and parents to check online to see my DBS status.

I ask that:

- children are accompanied by a parent / supervising adult (e.g. TA or nursery practitioner) at all times during therapy sessions.
- vulnerable adults are accompanied by a family member, carer or support worker at all times during therapy sessions.

I have public liability insurance from the RCSLT – *view certificate [here](#)*

I have a statutory duty to report any suspected neglect or abuse of a child or vulnerable adult to the local authority safeguarding services. I will usually discuss this with the family/carers or organisation prior to making a report unless this is deemed to pose further danger to the child or adult.

Teletherapy:

I ask that a parent / carer attend the teletherapy sessions with their child/adult. I may record therapy sessions but this is only for the purposes of assessment or parental feedback (e.g. if needed for feedback on observation of parent/child interaction). *All video recordings will be deleted after feedback.*

All client information is stored in line with Data Protection/ GDP Regulations and my current privacy policy.

I use encrypted video conferencing facilities (Secure Socket Layer (SSL) encryption) - namely the Jitsi Meet video conferencing platform and/or [Zoom](#).

Infection control:

I refer to the current government guidelines for infection control. I have completed the yearly mandatory training on Infection Control June in 2020.

I ask that children /adults do not attend a physical therapy or assessment session if they have an infectious illness e.g. within 48 hours of diarrhoea and/or vomiting or presenting with any symptoms of Covid-19.

I will also not attend a physical therapy session if I have an infections illness.