Introduction

Welcome to our first RCSLT Scotland Update. Our staff team (Kim, Andrena and Robert) are all now working remotely. RCSLT’s priority is the safety, wellbeing and support of its members and this Update will help us keep you informed of SLT specific news and resources. Our contact details are printed at the end of the Update – please don’t hesitate to get in touch if we can be of assistance.

Working Safely and Effectively - RCSLT Guidelines

RCSLT guidance and resources are available at [https://www.rcslt.org/news/covid-19](https://www.rcslt.org/news/covid-19) and will be regularly updated.

Content includes:

- Links to UK and Scottish Government advice, guidance and circulars.
- RCSLT and HCPC advice on various aspects of SLT practice
  - Critical care – new publication on SLT role in Critical Care
  - Return to practice
  - Dysphagia
  - Having difficult conversations
  - Leadership
  - Respiratory care (adults)
  - Supervision
  - Telehealth
  - Independent practitioners
  - PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)
  - Routes back and into the NHS
- Space to share and pick up good ideas, practical resources for you, parents, carers, colleagues.
- Information on RCSLT staff hours of work and contact information.
Planned updates:

- Updated PPE guidance
- Narrative on AHP redeployment
- Access for students to website – to help them study
- Accelerated entry to profession by final year SLTs

New health resources

NES (NHS Education for Scotland) has set up an online portal for accelerated recruitment for returners and students to priority areas in health and social care.

NES learning resources on communication, including AAC.

News from Scottish Government / Scottish Parliament

**PPE:** RCSLT is writing to Scottish Government. Health Ministers to highlight challenges SLTs face on access to appropriate PPE.

**Legislation:** The Scottish Parliament passed the Coronavirus (Scotland) Bill on 1st April. We will produce a briefing covering the new measures for vulnerable children and adults on the website.

**Mental Health:** An additional £3.8m will be invested in NHS mental health support services, including £500,000 for Breathing Space’s online and telephone services and £2.1m for the NHS’s mental health hub expanding the staff of the hub to make it available to the public, as well as NHS staff, 24/7. A dedicated page on mental health information will also be added to the NHS inform website.

**Social Care Guidance:** The Scottish Government has published clinical guidance on COVID-19 relating to nursing home and residential care residents. It is accompanied by a letter from the Chief Medical Officer, Chief Nursing Officer and Chief Social Worker. A copy of a care home new admissions or transfer form has also been published. The Government has also published clinical guidance on COVID-19 for the management of clients accessing care at home, housing support and sheltered housing. This guidance is aimed at local authorities, Health and Social Care Partnerships and registered providers.

**Unpaid Carer Support:** The Scottish Government has published advice for unpaid carers in relation to COVID-19. The guidance urges those providing regular support to vulnerable friends or relatives to familiarise themselves with public health advice - check the NHS Inform website regularly for the latest information. Carers are also encouraged to consider emergency plans for others to take over their care should they need to self-isolate.
Resources we’ve come across

Rob Gregory
@rwgAT

The @TobiiDynavox #ICU #Hospital communication boards in English bilingual; Arabic Bulgarian Catalan Chinese Croatian Czech Estonian Finnish French German Hebrew Hungarian Italian Korean Lithuanian Norwegian Persian Polish Portuguese Russian Slovenian, Spanish Swedish Vietnamese pic.twitter.com/fGQ3ceXxNI

Luminate in partnership with Scottish Care have started Luminate@home sessions every Tuesday & Friday at 2pm on their facebook, youtube & vimeo channels aimed at people living in their own homes, and care home staff looking for activity ideas.

You may be feeling uncertain and anxious. It's okay to feel this way but it's important to remember that there's lots of things we can do to look after ourselves. Our guide covers ways to reduce anxiety to a manageable level. 📞 ow.ly/b4hk50yWDiK pic.twitter.com/aeAbGjQS6P

“Sporting memories” are making their weekly “Sporting Pink” they use at their Clubs to introduce fun activities and help stimulate sporting memories available to everyone. It contains articles, quizzes, a sports diary and more. To find out more & to register visit their website

Fraudsters are increasingly targeting the public and organisations with emails, texts, telephone calls and WhatsApp messages offering advice and treatment for the coronavirus. More information here and here.
Loads of advice available out there. These are all reliable and trusted…. #StayAtHome #SaveLives pic.twitter.com/18gAYNP0G0
31/03/2020, 10:28

RCSLT Scotland Contacts

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Working hours</th>
<th>Contacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kim Hartley Kean, Head of RCSLT Scotland Office</td>
<td>Monday to Thursday, 9-6pm</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Kim.hartleykean@rcslt.org">Kim.hartleykean@rcslt.org</a> 07712 525 329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert MacBean, Policy Officer (Scotland)</td>
<td>Tuesday and Wednesday 10.30 – 4.30pm; Thursday 10.30 – 3.30pm</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Robert.macbean@rcslt.org">Robert.macbean@rcslt.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrena Wilson, PA and Sec. AHPFS</td>
<td>Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 8.30am-3.30pm</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Andrena.wilson@rcslt.org">Andrena.wilson@rcslt.org</a> 07854 081 973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCSLT Information Team</td>
<td>Monday to Friday, 9-5pm</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@rcslt.org">info@rcslt.org</a> 0207 378 3012</td>
</tr>
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