

# RCSLT survey on access to speech and language therapy: people aged 0-18

\* Required

The Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists is worried about people's speech and language therapy support during COVID-19.

We want people to get the speech and language therapy support they need.

We need your help.

We want to find out:

- if the COVID-19 pandemic has made a difference to your speech and language therapy support
- how have changes to your speech and language therapy support made you feel
- what you think about the future

If you are a parent, carer or family member:

- Your child may be able to do some or all of the survey.
- They may need help.
- Please help them with the survey if they need help.
- If you are doing the survey for your child answer the questions as they would.

This survey has six parts.

This survey finishes on 8 January 2021.

Following guidance from the Health Research Authority (HRA, 2020), this survey is not deemed to be research and thus does not require approval from a Research Ethics Committee.

The RCSLT is the Data Controller for the information you give us on this form. That means they keep your information safe. If you don't want to share this information, you can email [info@rcslt.org](mailto:info@rcslt.org).

You can read more information about RCSLT, your personal information and your rights here: <https://www.rcslt.org/data-protection-policy>

If you need support with this survey, please contact [peter.just@rcslt.org](mailto:peter.just@rcslt.org) or [padraigin.oflynn@rcslt.org](mailto:padraigin.oflynn@rcslt.org).

Please return your completed survey to [peter.just@rcslt.org](mailto:peter.just@rcslt.org) and [padraigin.oflynn@rcslt.org](mailto:padraigin.oflynn@rcslt.org).

## Section A: About you

If you are doing the survey for someone, answer the questions as they would.

1. What is your postcode? [This question is optional but would be helpful in our analysis].

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Which country do you live in? \*

*Tick only one.*

- England
- Scotland
- Wales
- Northern Ireland
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Please tell us who you are \*

*Tick all that apply.*

- I am a person who has speech and language therapy
- I am a paid carer
- I am a family member or unpaid carer
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. When did you start having speech and language therapy? \*

*Tick only one.*

- Before March 2020

After March 2020 (in the virus time)

5. What does speech and language therapy help you with? \*

*Tick all that apply.*

Help with speech, language and communication

Help with eating and drinking

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Why are you having speech and language therapy? \*

*Tick all that apply.*

Autism

Brain injury

Cleft lip and palate

Hearing loss / deafness

Developmental delay

Developmental language disorder or language disorder

Stammer

Learning disability

Speech sound disorder

Mental health

Selective mutism

ADHD

Waiting for diagnosis

Do not know

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## Section B: Your speech and language therapy in lockdown (March - June 2020)

If you are doing the survey for someone, answer the questions as they would.

7. Did your speech and language therapy change in lockdown (March – June 2020)?

*Tick only one.*

- It was more
- It was the same
- It was less
- I had no therapy in lockdown
- Do not know

8. What happened to your speech and language therapy appointments?

*Tick only one.*

- The speech & language therapist cancelled my appointment (not at home)
- I / my carer cancelled my appointment (not at home)
- The speech & language therapist cancelled my home visit
- I / my carer cancelled my home visit
- I had speech and language therapy appointment using video (online), like Zoom, Facetime or WhatsApp
- I had speech & language therapy help on the phone
- I did not want a home visit from a speech and language therapist

9. Why were your appointments cancelled? [For example, shielding, safety, transport, speech therapist had to do another job to help with the virus]

*Tick all that apply.*

- I was shielding
- My carer or other people I live with were shielding
- I / my carer did not feel safe to go to face to face appointments
- I had the virus
- My carer had the virus
- My therapist had the virus
- My school/college was closed
- My community or work centre was closed
- The health centre was closed

10. How did you have your speech and language therapy before the virus lockdown (March - June 2020)?

*Tick all that apply.*

- At home in person
- Not at home in person (for example clinic/hospital day service)
- On the phone
- By video (online)
- Through other support, for example social media or printed materials
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

11. Did you get your speech and language therapy in person in the virus lockdown (March - June 2020)?

*Tick only one.*

- Yes, at home
- Yes, not at home (for example clinic/hospital day service)
- I did not get speech and language therapy face to face in the virus lockdown
- I did not get any speech and language therapy at all in the virus lockdown

12. Did you get your speech and language therapy on the phone in the virus lockdown (March - June 2020)?

*Tick only one.*

- Yes
- Tried, but it didn't work
- No

13. How was your speech and language therapy help on the phone?

*Tick only one.*

- Good – I liked it
- Okay
- Bad – I did not like it
- I could not do it at all
- Do not know

14. Please tell us what you liked:

*Please write it below.*

15. Please tell us what you didn't like:

*Please write it below.*

16. Did you get your speech and language therapy by video (online) in the virus lockdown (March - June 2020)?

*Tick only one.*

- Yes
- Tried, but it didn't work
- No

17. How was your speech and language therapy help on video (online)?

*Tick only one.*

- Good – I liked it
- Okay
- Bad – I did not like it
- I could not do it at all
- Do not know

18. How easy was it to use the computer / laptop / tablet / smartphone for speech and language therapy?

*Tick only one.*

- Easy
- Okay
- Hard
- I do not use a computer/laptop/tablet/smartphone

19. Did you get your speech and language therapy through other support, for example social media or printed materials, in the virus lockdown (March - June 2020)?

- Yes
- No

20. Did you get help updating your communication support tools? (For example, communication pictures, communication books, electronic aids)

*Tick only one.*

- Yes
- No
- I do not have communication support tools

21. Please tell us more about your communication support in the virus time:

*Please write it below.*

22. Have you received speech and language therapy face to face since the end of lockdown (June 2020)?

*Tick only one.*

Yes

No

23. What is it like if you wear a mask in your speech and language therapy?

*Tick only one.*

Easy

Okay

Hard

I do not wear a mask

24. What is it like if your therapist wears a mask in your speech and language therapy?

*Tick only one.*

Easy

Okay

Hard

They do not wear a mask

25. Has your communication or swallowing become worse in COVID-19?

*Tick only one.*

It is better

It is the same

It is worse

Do not know

## Section C: Your life and wellbeing in the virus time and after

If you are doing the survey for someone, answer the questions as they would.

26. How does your speech and language therapy help you?

*Tick all that apply.*

- Makes my life better
- Makes my carer's life better
- Makes no difference to me
- Makes no difference to my carers
- Makes my life worse
- Makes my carer's life worse
- Do not know

27. Please tell us more about your speech and language therapy help:

*Please write it below.*

28. If you had less speech and language therapy help in lockdown (March - June 2020), tick the things it made worse.

*Tick all that apply.*

- Physical health
- Mental health
- Home and domestic life
- Social life / friendships

- Hobbies / leisure
- Education
- Employment
- Other

29. If you are a family member or carer of someone who had less speech and language therapy in lockdown (March - June 2020), tick the things it made worse for you.

*Tick all that apply.*

- Physical health
- Mental health
- Home and domestic life
- Social life / friendships
- Hobbies / leisure
- Education
- Employment
- Other

30. Are you worried about getting your speech and language therapy help in the future?

*Tick only one.*

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

## **Section D: Other information**

If you are doing the survey for someone, answer the questions as they would.

31. Is there anything else about speech and language therapy help you would like to tell us?

*Please write it below.*

## Section E: More about you

If you are doing the survey for someone, answer the questions as they would.

32. How old are you?

*Tick only one.*

- 0-4
- 5-11
- 12-16
- 17-18
- Prefer not to say
- Do not know

33. How would you describe your gender?

*Tick only one.*

- Male
- Female
- Non-binary
- Prefer not to say
- Prefer to self-describe: \_\_\_\_\_

34. What is your ethnicity?

*Tick only one.*

- White British/Irish
- Gypsy or Irish Traveller
- Other white background

- Black/African/Caribbean/Black British
- Asian/Asian British
- Other ethnic group
- Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups
- Prefer not to say
- Do not know

**Section F: Consent (saying yes or no)**

If you are doing the survey for someone, answer the questions as they would.

35. Can we contact you about this survey? \*

*Tick only one.*

Yes

No

36. If yes, please tell us your email address or telephone/mobile number.

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**Thank you!**