

Child & Adolescent Specialist Services

Christopher Wren House

113 High Street

Croydon

CR0 1QG

Tel No: 020 3228 0000

10th June 2020

Dear Referrer

**Re: Covid-19 Pandemic – Update from Croydon CAMHS**

We are writing to provide you with a service update in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Firstly, we would like to assure you that we are doing all we can to continue to deliver a service, whilst ensuring we maintain the safety of all children, young people, and their families.

In line with government policy, the majority of our staff continue to work from home. We have developed new ways of working with many of our interventions, including both assessments and treatment options, being offered online where it has been possible to do so.

We continue to provide an emergency service to those presenting in crisis to Croydon University Hospital; assessments are initially being offered to patients via telephone, however, if this cannot be completed for any reason, a face-to-face assessment is being offered with the appropriate use of PPE.

We have retained our face to face offer for a very small number of patients who are considered to be high risk and where it is safe for both families and staff to meet. This has included visiting children and young people in their homes and offering appointments at Christopher Wren House.

We initially closed to non-urgent/routine referrals so that we could focus on those children and young people in crisis and this was in keeping with National NHS guidance. However, we are pleased to confirm that as of today, we have now re-opened to referrals. For any children or young people still requiring a CAMHS service, please make a re-referral to us via the Croydon Emotional Health and Well-Being SPOC: [www.croydon.gov.uk/ewmh](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/ewmh)

Please be aware that due to ongoing social distancing rules and infection control guidance, we are still not in a position where we can begin to safely offer face to face appointments for routine work, and as such we will continue to offer online assessments and treatment.

We would also like to advise that some assessments e.g. for children suspected of a developmental disorder (including Autism Spectrum conditions and Attention Deficit with Hyperactivity Disorders) require face to face contact and it is unlikely they will be seen before we are open to routine face to face appointments. This will impact on waiting times.

We have been enormously grateful for all your support and understanding during these challenging times, we will keep you updated with further service developments in due course.

Yours sincerely,

**Liz Cooke Sue Goode**

**Service Manager Croydon CAMHS Lead Clinician Croydon CAMHS**