

Cherished Minds Response to COVID-19

As the world health crisis continues to evolve and impact the way that we go about our usual day to day activities, Cherished Minds has been busily planning to ensure that Cherished Families have continued access to their Psychologists and Counsellors at this time where support and guidance is more important than ever.

Social Distancing

- Cherished Minds waiting rooms have been changed to encourage social distancing with only few chairs spread with ample space between them. We are also asking that where possible parents and carers wait for their child in their car during consultations.
- Cherished Minds is utilizing the new upstairs area to spread out staff and ensure that we avoid having many people in one space. We anticipate that there would be no more than two clients' seen in either up or down stairs areas at any one time and often only one.
- Cherished Minds has suspended social skills groups until future notice.
- Cherished Minds has initiated our online model which allows clients to continue with their usual appointments via Zoom (video conferencing) or via phone. This has already shown to be highly effective and many of our client have transitioned to this model successfully.

Cleaning/Hygiene Procedures

- Practitioners will be washing their hands regularly, including before and after every client
- Practitioners will be wiping down door handles, toys and resources before and after every client
- High contact items have been removed from the office common areas including magazine and toy shelves. In the consultation rooms toy shelves have been replaced by hard tubs with minimal toys that can be wiped down after every child.
- Administration staff will be wiping down the front desk, door handles and other high contact areas frequently
- Hand sanitiser will be made available throughout the office for staff and clients
- Clients are asked to wash their hands upon entering the clinic and signs throughout the clinic demonstrate appropriate hygiene practices
- Staff and clients will not attend the clinic if they are unwell or at risk

All Cherished Minds staff will complete the Australian Government Health COVID-19 infection control training to ensure they have a clear understanding of the virus and how we can control the risks. We encourage all clients and their families to do the same. The training can be found at <http://covid-19training.gov.au>



Cherished Minds

Child & Adolescent Psychology

Above all, we strive to ensure that during this time of uncertainty, Cherished Families continue to get the support they need and continuity in services that have thus far been integral to their child's social, emotional and behavioural development. It is so important that we continue to allow our children to connect to others and have both an outlet and guidance to make sense of this world around them in such an unpredictable and confusing time.

If you have any questions or would like to talk to administration or your child's psychologist or counsellor to make a plan for continued support please reach out on 02 9822-8630

Yours Sincerely,

The Cherished Minds Team

