



Telehealth During the Coronavirus Emergency School Closure

Student Name:

DOB:

Parent/Guardian Name:

Date:

Coronavirus Emergency School Closure

At the direction of the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), all schools in the state, including The Pathways Schools, are currently closed March 16, 2020, to April 24, 2020 due to the coronavirus emergency. If there is a State mandate for extended closures beyond that date during the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, The Pathways Schools will be closed and the consent for telehealth will remain in effect.

Telehealth Services

To continue to provide related services (counseling, speech language pathology, and occupational therapy) to your child during the emergency closure, The Pathways Schools will be transitioning to providing telehealth services by way of technology including platforms with and without video capability, starting April 14, 2020. If we encounter technical difficulties resulting in service interruptions, we will end and restart the session as soon as possible.

Privacy

Communicating by technology could result in other individuals gaining access to the session if they are present while we communicate with your child or gain access through the technology (phone or digital method). The Pathways Schools' providers will make every reasonable effort to ensure privacy of the sessions. There will be no recording of digital or telephone communication. Information during the sessions will relate to the goals and objectives of the student's amended Individualized Education Program (IEP) or other approved agreement for programming. As is standard procedure, your provider will only share personal session information if your child tells the provider about being abused or if the student presents as a danger to self or others.

Emergency Crisis Intervention

If it is determined during the session that your child is a danger to self or others, your child will be instructed to get a parent, guardian or another designated emergency contact adult designated by you and/or contact will be made with appropriate authorities such as the police, fire department, or child protective services. Therefore, it is critical for the service provider to know the child's location before the start of each therapy session and for all emergency contact information to be updated.

If you DO NOT wish to have your child engage in telehealth sessions for related services during the time that schools are closed for the COVID-19 pandemic, please sign below and return to the therapist.

Your signature indicates you DO NOT want related therapy services via telephone or digital means during the State mandated school closure:

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Student Signature, if 18 or over: _____

