



Centre for Movement Disorders

NICE RESPONSE TO COVID-19

As a service based charity, we are of course facing an unprecedented situation and one which has and still requires us to respond flexibly and rapidly. We have been very carefully monitoring the daily government advice and ensured that we have followed this very carefully. Implementing this has of course changed the shape of all our services but we hope that we have responded in a timely and innovative way to help those most in need through this very difficult and challenging period.

To achieve this we are using a range of different options:

- Regular weekly phased return to face-to-face teaching for our nursery and school children, all of whom have an EHC Plan and are therefore entitled to receive the option of continuing to attend NICE.
- Option of home schooling with support, individual physical and academic resources and remote links for children whose health needs place them in an at risk category.
- Regular weekly 'remote working' and online resources to provide individual and group support and activities for our 0-3 year olds and their families.
- Weekly video conferencing sessions and practical support packages for our adult service users, most of whom are over the age of 70 and all of whom are designated with complex health needs. These will be held individually and in small groups to help prevent isolation.

A number of our professional staff (conductors) have been and will continue to work full time to support our families. This may be centre based or may be from home via remote links. We are currently providing bespoke individual and group support to 147 adults and 63 children over this period. We understand that many of our beneficiaries and families will be feeling the effects of isolation. Our aim is to be a consistent port of call for physical and mental health for them and mitigate these effects as much as possible. Every person has been allocated a 'key worker' who they are in contact with for any support they require. This has even meant making sure that some of our elderly people receive essential supplies if they do not have family around to support. Where remote working is not currently possible, due to lack of technology, we have sent packages of activities and are making regular weekly phone calls to support the families.

Our NICE pledge is to work with our families and help them retain as many of the skills they have worked so hard to develop as possible. When possible we look forward to welcoming them back to the arms of NICE.

Charities, such as NICE, do however require funding over this period to ensure that they can continue to provide services now and in the future. We have had to cancel all our events planned for the summer and this has resulted in over 30% loss of income. We are working hard to mitigate the impact of this while simultaneously supporting all our families. If you feel able to help or support in any way please contact us.

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