


The COVID-19 pandemic has thrown many challenges in our paths, and we know that managing COVID-19 at schools is challenging. Now that community transmission of the virus is here, **it's more important than ever for children to access their therapeutic interventions.**


Here's how Ability WA can adapt and continue to provide therapy services to customers:



Direct

Direct therapy sessions with the student at school when government and school guidelines allow it and with following COVID-19 safe protocols

One off observation and consultation school visits with teachers to maximise the participation of the student in the curriculum with their peers is another option.



Telepractice

Sessions via telehealth platforms (e.g. MS Teams / Zoom) with teacher / education assistants discussing strategies from therapy sessions outside of school.

If school resources allow it, we can also provide ongoing telepractice sessions directly with the student, using the student's device.



Online Support


Online meetings with teachers, education assistants, students and/or their families e.g. Individual Education Plan meetings or transition planning.



Assistive Technology

Consultation in person or via telepractice or phone call about using assistive technology in the school environment including wheelchair mobility access, hoist use, software information and continence equipment.


We can also liaise with SSEND about assistive technology needs following a teacher's request.



Resources

Provision of therapy programs to teachers / education assistants to carry on within the school environment

Support with making visual supports and other resources for the classroom to meet the student's specific needs.



Check in Connection

Connecting with teachers/ education assistants via phone or email regarding the student in their class and how we can best support them together to reach their goals.

We recognise and respect the importance of education and the role of a teacher in a child's learning. Therefore, we recognise the importance of reducing disruption to a child's education whilst delivering therapy. There are many ways we can work inside and outside of the classroom. We're here to work with schools and teachers for the best outcomes for children.

Please contact your student's therapy team on 1300 106 106 if you have any questions about our approach to managing covid-19 and how to continue important therapy programs.