

Door Safety

This leaflet provides advice on how you can help keep your child with challenging behaviour safe around doors. The Children's Occupational Therapy Service offers a range of leaflets with advice on how to keep your child safe - call 020 8274 6854 for further information.

Because children with challenging behaviour may have little awareness of danger they may abscond from home or access rooms where they could be in danger, for example the kitchen and bathroom.

General considerations:

- Before fitting any extra locks, fire safety should be taken into consideration. The Fire Service is able to advise.
- If doors are locked with keys it is important that the keys can be found quickly in the event of an emergency.

Examples of possible solutions:

- Slide bolts, door chains and internal and external door locks.
- Door opener restrictors.
- Key safe or key cabinet to ensure that keys can be located quickly in the event of an emergency.
- Key pad door locks. These ensure that only people with the security code can open the door and prevents your child from leaving the house.
- Stable doors (top and bottom half open separately) enable the child and parent to see each other in adjoining rooms while keeping the child safe.
- Doors with a visual panel or spy holes enable you to see the child without disturbing them. The spy hole should have 180° viewing range.
- Sensors or alarms can be fitted to doors to alert you when your child has entered an area or opened a door. Door alarms are available from Maplins from £5.

Examples of suppliers:

Door wedges, slide bolts, door chains, internal and external door locks:

- Niche Locks www.nichelocks.com 01922 473 199
- DIY outlets, for example Homebase, B&Q.

Door restrictors:

- Jackloc www.jackloc.com 01530 249 034

Key safe or key cabinet:

- The Safe Shop www.thesafeshop.co.uk 0800 432 0722

Sensors or Alarms:

- Maplin www.maplin.co.uk 020 8686 6081

- Frequency Precision www.frequencyprecision.com 01837 810 590

Pressure Mat and Pager Systems:

- Pressure Mat www.pressuremat.com 01837 810 590
- Easy Link UK www.easylinkuk.co.uk 01536 264 869
- Ridley Electronics UK www.ridleyelect.co.uk 01722 717 878

For key pad door locks, doors with a visual panel or spy hole, or for stable doors: try most DIY stores or a carpenter (for stable doors)

The lists of companies provided in these information leaflets are not approved lists. Croydon Council and Croydon Health Services accept no liability with regard to any purchases from the companies listed. The list of companies provided is not an exhaustive list.

Your questions and comments:

PALS offers assistance, advice and support for patients and their families. The PALS office is open to callers from 9am to 3.30pm, Monday to Friday. Telephone number 020 8401 3210.