

Electrical Safety

This leaflet provides advice on how you can help keep your child with challenging behaviour safe from electricity. 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.

Children with challenging behaviour may have a reduced sense of awareness of danger. If electric appliances or electrical sockets are tampered with there is a great risk to your child's safety.

General considerations:

- When employing a tradesman for electrical works, it is advisable to use a qualified electrician who is registered with NICEIC, which maintains a register of qualified, competent electricians. Contact via www.niceic.com or 0870 013 0382.

Examples of possible solutions:

Lighting

- Stainless steel electrical sockets with lockable fronts are available from most electrical suppliers.
- Dome-type ceiling light covers instead of pendant lights are safer.
- Light switches can be located outside the room, if necessary.

Electric sockets

- Plug-in socket covers are readily available.
- Plastic covers that fit over the entire electrical fittings of a light switch or socket are available. It is then impossible to switch on the light or the electrical appliance without opening the cover.
- Plug sockets can be recessed into the wall by a certified electrician.

Electrical Products

- DVD and Digibox protectors (e.g. Clippasafe DVD and DigiBox Protector) are covers that help to restrict your child from gaining access to your electronic equipment.
- TV screen protectors can protect your TV from sticky fingers, crayons and damage from items being thrown at it.
- Strong, lockable TV cabinets with unbreakable front panels can house your TV, DVD, and other units to keep the buttons, wires and electrics safely away from inquisitive children. Some can also be wall mounted.
- A cable tidy is a protective sheath that is designed to encase wires and cables. This prevents children from being able to chew or pull on wires.
- A cable bridge is a range of ridged plastic cable bridges that can be fixed to floors, walls or desks using screws or double-sided tape.

Examples of Suppliers:

- Safetots www.safetots.co.uk 01438 728 888
- Child Alert www.childalert.co.uk 07973215407
- Plug Lock www.pluglock.co.uk 01535 646 071
- Maplin www.maplin.co.uk 020 8686 6081
- Kiddacare www.kiddacare.com 0871 781 7000
- Fledglings www.fledglings.org.uk 0845 458 1124
- Kid Rapt www.childsafety.co.uk 01582 493 382
- Plug Lock: plug safety covers www.pluglock.co.uk 01535 646 071

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.