

Window Safety

This leaflet provides advice on how you can help keep your child with challenging behaviour safe around windows. 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 little awareness of danger, and measures may need to be taken to prevent them from breaking glass or jumping or falling from windows.

General Considerations:

- Children with challenging behaviour may need close supervision at all times.
- It is advisable to keep the area below windows clear of furniture to prevent your child from climbing.
- Windows may need to be kept locked while your child is in the room. When your child is out of the room the windows can be opened for air circulation.
- Councils and Housing Associations may not agree to provision of window restrictor catches as they may prevent evacuation in the event of a fire.
- Before fitting any extra locks, fire safety should be taken into consideration. The Fire Service is able to provide advice.

Examples of Possible Solutions:

- Glass safety film fitted on window.
- Interior window protection frame with lockable polycarbonate door, for example supplied by Tough Furniture.
- Replacing ordinary glass with safety glass or makrolon (polycarbonate) sheets.
- Sliding window and door blocker, for example Clippasafe.
- Window restrictors and window locks.
- If it is not possible to lock windows, an alarm can be fitted to alert you if your child opens the window. Window alarms are available from Maplin from approximately £5.
- For children with challenging behaviour who have a tendency to pull on curtain rails, curtains can be held up with Velcro attachments. Alternative curtain rails are available that magnetically attach so can easily be reattached.
- If it is not possible to keep curtains in place, plastic adhesive window covering to give privacy whilst letting in light area available, for example through Kid Rapt.
- Shutters or security grills on the outside of the windows may be needed if other options have failed.

Examples of Suppliers:

- **Glass safety film:**
Mothercare www.mothercare.com or most DIY stores
- **Interior window protection frame:**
Tough Furniture www.toughfurniture.com 01588 674 340

- **Toughened safety glass:**
White Windows www.whitewindows.co.uk 01983 523 552
- **Makrolon sheets:**
Eagle Boat Windows www.eagleboatwindows.co.uk 01282 697 700 or DIY stores
- **Sliding window and door blocker:**
Clippasafe www.clippasafe.co.uk 0115 921 1899
- **Window restrictors:**
 - Child Alert www.childalert.co.uk info@childalert.co.uk
 - Jackloc Company Ltd. www.jackloc.com 01530 249 034
 - UPVC Hardware www.upvc-hardware.co.uk 01422 343 831
 - Locks on Line www.locksonline.co.uk 0845 230 0201
 - Primera Life www.primeralife.co.uk 0870 300 1810
 - Avenue Supplies www.avenuesupplies.co.uk 020 8997 5071
 - Kid Rapt www.childsafety.co.uk 01582 493 382
 - DIY stores
- **Custom made bracket window restrictors:** Geoff Stokes 020 8676 0047
- **Window alarms:** Maplin www.maplin.co.uk 020 8686 6081
- **Curtains and rails:**
 - Colourways Ltd. www.colourwaysltd.com 01489 580 978
 - Hallis Hudson www.hallishudson.com 01772 202 202
 - Primera Life www.primeralife.co.uk 0870 300 1810
- **Plastic adhesive window covering** for privacy while letting in light:
Kid Rapt www.childsafety.co.uk 01582 493 382 or DIY stores.
- **Lockable wooden shutters:** Most DIY stores.
- **Security Grills:** Building contractors, security firms, welding companies.

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 exhaustive.

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.