



MPC ONLINE

The Michael Palin Centre for Stammering (MPC) has been open for business throughout the COVID-19 emergency thanks to the wonders of modern technology, a flexible and creative staff team, as well as fantastic support from NHS Whittington Health, Action for Stammering Children and the Stuttering Foundation.

2.6

"The fact that I can still have sessions despite not being able to attend the centre in person is very valuable. It means that I can speak to someone about my stutter who understands and means help is always there".

We have seen over one hundred families for assessments and therapy sessions since moving our services online. The team of have also been busy on the email and telephone helpline; responding to questions from parents, therapists, young people and adults who stammer. Three of our therapists volunteered to be redeployed and have been supporting the nursing team in the Intensive Care Unit at the Whittington Hospital.

"My son has thoroughly enjoyed working with Sarah and when online, it worked just as well as it did in person".

"It was fantastic, especially during this pandemic and lockdown time. It would be great if we could carry on these sessions online as I feel more safe and think it's more effective".

Given how worried many of our clients and their families were about the prospect of not being able to come to the Centre, it has been given us enormous satisfaction to be able to maintain the same quality of service throughout what has been such a difficult time for so many. We are acutely aware of the effects of increased anxiety on those who stammer, making it all the more worthwhile to be able to provide continuity and a source of support. We have been delighted to hear from our clients, their families, and our speech and language therapy colleagues about the difference MPC-Online has been making to their everyday lives.

Now the staff team have set themselves a new challenge: to support Action for Stammering Children (ASC) in raising funds to help children who stammer and their families. On Sunday 26 April, the MPC team, joined by a number of staff from the past, will join the 2.6 Challenge, an initiative organised by the London Marathon and others to generate the funds that would have been raised by charities such as ASC. The MPC team will 'run' a marathon and you can sponsor us at:

<http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/michaelpalincentreforstammering>