

COVID-19 Update February 2022

In 2022 we are all unfortunately continuing to manage the implications of COVID-19 in our families, workplaces and social lives. Kylie Smith Psychology is committed to continuing with Face-to-Face psychology appointments and believes that the risk of COVID-19 transmission can be mitigated if we work together to keep the clinic a safe space.

Kylie Smith Psychology continues to prioritise the health and safety of clients by implementing the following practices:

- Offering Telehealth as an alternative to Face-to-Face appointments where there is a concern that either the psychologist or the client is at risk of transmitting COVID-19.
- Providing appropriate hygiene measures including masks, hand sanitisers and an air purifier in the main consult room.
- Limiting client crossover in the waiting room by avoiding back-to-back appointments where possible, and rotating consult rooms where crossover is unavoidable.
- Waiving late cancellation fees where the client does not attend an appointment for reasons directly relating to COVID-19.
- Kylie is taking weekly Rapid Antigen Tests so that alternatives to Face-to-face appointments can be made in the event she tests positive.

A word on masks – although these have been mandated in public settings by government at various times to offer protection against transmission of COVID-19, settings offering psychological support have been exempt from these mandates. This is because for a range of reasons, it is not always clinically appropriate to insist a person wears a mask when they are engaging in therapy. For this reason, Kylie Smith Psychology has taken a case-by-case approach on this matter.

In summary:

- Please let your psychologist know if you are experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms or have been a close contact in the days prior to your appointment so we can agree on an appropriate plan for your session (we will do the same).
- Please don't come into the clinic if you are feeling unwell or at high-risk of transmitting the virus. Remember, if you're cancelling for these reasons you won't get a cancellation fee.
- Please limit the number of family members who come with you to the clinic where possible.
- Please follow the any local, state or federal laws and guidelines that apply to your contact with the clinic.
- Please ask questions if you have any concerns about your appointment or any aspect of this policy.

Managing risks associated with COVID-19 is a shared responsibility and your ongoing cooperation is much appreciated.