

PASTS Clinicians and School-Based Staff Collaboration

At PASTS, we understand that our clients may also be receiving speech language services at school. PASTS clinicians are happy to make contact with other related professionals for the purposes of finding out more about your child in other settings, so that intervention is more functional, consistent and collaborative with other programs. Sharing information with other professionals can accelerate a child's success in meeting their goals by sharing positive strategies that are helping the process

1. Scope of Services

- The PASTS speech language pathologist may provide supplemental services that complement, but do not replace, the school-based SLP's responsibilities under IDEA or Section 504.
- Collaborative services may include direct therapy, consultation, progress monitoring, carryover strategies, or training for staff and families, as agreed upon with the school team.
- The PASTS speech language pathologist will not independently modify Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) or 504 Plans but may contribute parent-requested input for consideration by the school team.

2. Collaboration and Communication

- The PASTS speech language pathologist will maintain open, respectful, and collaborative communication with the school staff, special education team, and relevant staff.
- Written consent from parents/guardians will be required before any exchange of student information.
- Regular communication will include progress updates, shared data (with consent), and coordination of therapeutic strategies to promote consistency across environments.
- Documentation by the PASTS speech language pathologist will be shared with the school team only with parent/guardian consent, by signing a "release of information" (available on our website or request that we email you the link)
- PASTS speech language pathologists are happy to speak with anyone you would like us to collaborate with for no charge, if the call is 15 minutes or less, and an occasional



occurrence. Calls exceeding 15 minutes are charged to the client at a pro-rated fee per hour for any time beyond 15 minutes.

3. Professional Standards

- The PASTS speech language pathologist will adhere to ASHA's Code of Ethics, state licensure requirements, FERPA, and HIPAA regulations when communicating with related professionals.
- Professional boundaries will be maintained, with services clearly distinguished as school-based (educational access focus) or private (medical/functional focus).
- The PASTS speech language pathologist will respect the school's academic priorities.
- In the event of differing clinical opinions or approaches, the PASTS speech language pathologist and school Speech Language Pathologist will engage in professional dialogue to identify areas of alignment and communicate different approaches clearly to the family and team.
- The student's educational program decisions remain the responsibility of the school IEP or 504 team.
- If a school-based SLP is interested in collaborating we are, of course, open to observations and a quick conversation, but we cannot take on the time and responsibility to "train" them.
- For our private clients, we typically *do not* attend IEP or SST meetings. In no case, will we attend a meeting in the role of an "advocate" whose responsibility it is to negotiate services or school placement

Review and Revision

This policy will be reviewed annually or as needed to ensure continued alignment with legal requirements, professional standards, and student needs.