



# KIDS IN THE BARBERSHOP





## OUR MISSION

KIDS CAN OFTEN FIND IT DIFFICULT WHEN ATTENDING THE BARBERSHOP PARTICULARLY WHEN THEY HAVE PREVIOUSLY HAD A BAD EXPERIENCE, HAVE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS OR NEUROLOGICAL OR DEVELOPMENTAL SPECTRUM 'DISORDERS' SUCH AS AUTISM OR ADHD.

EVERY CHILD AND THEIR CIRCUMSTANCE IS DIFFERENT AND THAT'S HOW WE TREAT THEM.

WE HAVE WORKED WITH MANY CHILDREN OVER THE YEARS AND HAVE REFINED A WAY TO WORK WITH THEM WHICH ENABLES THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMFORT WITHIN THE BARBERSHOP AND TO DEVELOP A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BARBER AND CHILD BASED ON THEIR INDIVIDUAL REQUIREMENTS.

WE ARE CHILD LED...



BEING CHILD LED ENCOURAGES THE CHILD TO LET DOWN  
THEIR DEFENSIVE BOUNDRIES IN A WAY AND AT A RATE  
THAT SUITS THEM.

WE USE A RANGE OF TECHNIQUES TO START DEVELOP THE  
3 MAIN ELEMENTS OF THEIR VISIT;

- COMFORT IN THEIR SURROUNDINGS
- THE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE BARBER
- SENSORY EXPOSURE AND COMFORT





# TECNIQUES

PASSING VISITS  
CHILD LED PLAY  
EXPLORATION  
TOUCH  
REWARD  
DISTRACTION







# WHY?

PASSING VISITS - START TO DEVELOP A ROUTINE AND UNDERSTANDING FOR THE CHILD OF WHERE THEY ARE GOING AND WHY.

CHILD LED PLAY AND EXPLORATION - ALLOWING THE CHILD TO ROAM FREE WITH SAFE OVERVIEW ALLOWS THEM TO BECOME COMFORTABLE WITH THE SURROUNDINGS, TOOLS AND SOUNDS. (BRING TOYS FROM HOME TO MAKE THE CHILD FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE)

TOUCH - WE WILL USE TECHNIQUES SUCH AS PATTING ON THE BACK OR LEG, HIGH FIVES, HOLDING HANDS OR SITTING ON OUR KNEE (CHILD LED) TO DEVELOP A FRIENDSHIP WITH THE CHILD.

REWARD - WE WILL REWARD THE CHILD FOR GOOD RESPONSES AND PROGRESSION WITH THINGS SUCH AS HIGH FIVES, STICKERS AND SNACKS. (FEEL FREE TO BRING ANY PARTICULAR TREAT THEY LIKE)

DISTRACTION - USING DISTRACTION TECHNIQUES AND ACTION QUES ALLOWS US TO GET CLOSER TO THE CHILD AND WORK ON PARTICULAR AREAS OF THE CUT EASIER. WE HAVE TVS, TABLETS AND A CAR TO SIT IN WHICH ENCOURAGES POSITIVE ENGAGEMENT.

SOFT GUIDANCE - WE WILL AIM TO GUIDE THE CHILD WHERE WE NEED THEM TO BE AND WORKING WITH PARENTS TO TRY AND GET THE CHILD TO REMAIN AS STILL AS POSSIBLE HOWEVER THIS IS DIFFICULT AND CAN TAKE TIME.WE WILL WORK AROUND THEM



WE WILL NOT RESTRICT THE CHILD AGAINST THEIR WILL, THIS ONLY MAKES THE PROCESS HARDER. WHICH MEANS IF THEY DON'T SIT IN THE CHAIR THATS FINE.



# TIME FRAME...

IT CAN TAKE TIME AND WE WILL NOT RUSH THE PROCESS...

SOME CHILDREN WILL PROGRESS FASTER THAN OTHERS AND BE ABLE TO GET THE MAJORITY OR ALL OF THE CUT DONE ON THE FIRST ATTEMPT, SOME CHILDREN MAY REQUIRE MONTHS OF ENGAGEMENT AND MANY VISITS BUT THIS IS OK!

OUR AIM IS TO WORK WITH YOUR CHILD TO DEVELOP COMFORT WHEN GETTING A HAIRCUT FOR THE LONG TERM, IF WE DONT MANAGE A FULL HAIRCUT WE WILL TRY ANOTHER VISIT AND BUILD UP TO A COMPLETE CUT OVER TIME.

WE WILL NOT CHARGE FOR A CUT UNTIL WE ARE SUCCESSFUL.





# PARENTS ROLE...

YOU ARE KEY TO ENABLING THIS PROCESS TO BE AS SMOOTH AS POSSIBLE AND WE MAY REQUIRE YOUR ASSISTANCE HOWEVER IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU ARE ALSO LED BY US. THIS EXPERIENCE CAN BE DIFFICULT AND SOMETIMES UPSETTING AND STRESSFUL BUT WE ARE HERE FOR YOU AS MUCH AS YOUR CHILD.

REST ASSURED ALL OUR STAFF ARE TRAINED TO DEAL WITH THE MOST DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES AND WE HAVE SEEN IT ALL BEFORE.

SOMETIMES WE WILL REQUIRE A LOT OF INVOLVEMENT DURING THE PROCESS BUT HONESTLY, SOMETIMES IT IS BETTER THAT WE WORK WITH THE CHILD WITH MINIMAL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT.

REMEMBER WE ARE AIMING TO DEVELOP A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BARBER AND CHILD AND A COMFORT IN THE SURROUNDINGS WHICH ALSO MEANS THAT THE CHILD NEEDS TO BE ABLE TO SELF SOOTHE AND SEEK COMFORT FROM THE BARBER.

CONSTANT PARENTAL COMFORT CAN SOMETIMES BE COUNTER PRODUCTIVE.

WE WILL NOT PUT YOUR CHILD IN A SITUATION THAT IS UPSETTING AND YOUR CHILD MAY REQUIRE BREAKS OR TO TRY AGAIN ANOTHER DAY.

WE WILL LOOK FOR KEY SIGNS OF ENGAGEMENT TO BE ABLE TO TRACK PROGRESS SUCH AS THE CHILD'S DESIRE TO SEEK PLAY FROM THE BARBER OR THE WILLINGNESS TO FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS.

WE WILL NARRATE AND INFORM YOU THROUGH OUR PROCESS AND WHY WE ARE DOING WHAT WE ARE DOING AS WE GO.

# STYLES...

IT IS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THAT CERTAIN HAIRSTYLES WILL NOT NECESSARILY BE POSSIBLE DURING THIS PROCESS AND ITS IMPORTANT THAT WE FIRST AIM FOR A SUCESSFUL AND PEACEFUL HAIRCUT BEFORE WE START LOOKING AT MORE COMPLEX STYLES.

WE WILL ALWAYS START WITH SCISSOR CUTS BEFORE WE MOVE ON TO WORKING WITH CLIPPERS.

ONCE THEY FEEL COMFORTABLE THEN WE CAN PROGRESS TO CLIPPERS AND TO MORE FUNKY STYLES.





# EXPECTATIONS...

WE HAVE AN EXTREMELY HIGH SUCCESS RATE WITH CHILDREN BUT SUCCESS IS NOT LINEAR, THE PROCESS COULD REQUIRE PATIENCE AND BACKWARD STEPS AND IT IS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THIS.

CHILDREN START DEVELOPING MORE AWARENESS OF THEIR SURROUNDINGS BETWEEN 10 MONTHS AND 2 YEARS THINGS COULD GO WELL FOR THEIR FIRST TWO HAIRCUTS AND THEN AS THEY DEVELOP MORE AWARENESS THEY MAY BECOME MORE DIFFICULT TO WORK WITH BUT THIS IS NORMAL AND WITH PATIENT PERSISTENCE WE CAN EDUCATE YOUR CHILD THROUGH THIS.

PARENTS OFTEN PUT OFF GETTING THEIR CHILD'S HAIRCUT UNTIL TODDLER YEARS HOWEVER WE HAVE FOUND THE EARLIER YOU BRING IN THE CHILD THE BETTER. THIS ENABLES THE VISIT TO THE BARBERSHOP TO BECOME 'JUST A PART OF LIFE'.

EXPECT YOUR CHILD TO RUN AROUND AND TO TOUCH THINGS .  
EXPECT HAIRY CLOTHES (ALWAYS BRING A CHANGE OF CLOTHING)  
WE WILL AVOID PUTTING A GOWN ON UNTIL THEY FEEL COMFORTABLE.  
EXPECT TO NOT GET ANY HAIR CUT OFF AT FIRST.  
WE EXPECT IT AND SO SHOULD YOU.

ALL OF THIS IS OK, AS LONG AS YOUR CHILD IS HAPPY THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS.

# DISCLAIMER

WE ARE NOT DOCTORS AND THEREFORE CANNOT DIAGNOSE OR ADVISE BEYOND THE BARBERSHOP AND IT IS ALWAYS BEST TO SEEK ANY ADVICE FROM A MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL.

HOWEVER, WE HAVE LOTS OF EXPERIENCE OF WORKING WITH CHILDREN WITH A VARIETY OF LEARNING DIFFICULTIES AND NEUROLOGICAL 'CONDITIONS', HAVE RECEIVED TRAINING TO DO SO AND HAVE DERIVED THIS PROCESS FROM OUR EXPERIENCES.

WE WILL ALWAYS ACCEPT ADVICE AND WILL UPDATE OUR PROCESS THE MORE WE LEARN AND MORE INFORMATION WE HAVE. IF YOU WISH TO ADD SOMETHING OR PROVIDE US WITH FEEDBACK THIS CAN BE DONE VIA OUR FACEBOOK PAGE.

THANK YOU AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOUR CHILD.





**SEE YOU  
SOON!**

