



eastbury
primary
school



Partnership Learning



Audiology Policy

Approved: Spring 2023

Review Date: Spring 2025

Audiology Policy



Rationale

All deaf children, whatever their background or additional needs, will receive access to high quality audiological support from the ARP.

ARP staff will work closely with the local Audiology Department (Axe Street), Cochlear Implant Departments, deaf-specialist (and other specialist) Speech and Language Therapists, and other professionals to ensure that all children are appropriately identified, assessed, and aided, and that any audiological issues that occur are flagged up and rectified as they arise.

Purpose

To ensure that deaf children in the ARP have access to high quality audiological support.

Broad Guidelines

- The ARP will work collaboratively with the Audiology Technician.
- Qualified Teachers of the Deaf (QToD) will be competent to do speech discrimination tests of hearing and informed observations of children's response to sound.
- QToD will also be competent in interpreting audiological information from all sources.
- The QToD will maintain appropriate records of the development of listening skills.
- The QToD will use the Audiology Curriculum (as derived from the Leeds Audiology Curriculum) to assess understanding of audiology of the young person.
- ARP staff will liaise with the Audiology Department to make sure a full picture of the child's deafness and audiology is available. Joint clinics may be held, and two-way information sharing will be in place.
- ARP staff will be kept up to date with new technology, including hearing aids, radio aids, cochlear implant systems, and BAHAs through regular staff training.
- ARP staff will be competent to carry out day-to-day checks and maintenance of hearing aids, speech processors and radio aids.
- ARP staff will run equipment through test boxes regularly.
- A protocol for the provision of spare hearing aids and carrying out repairs will be in place between the Audiology Department and ARP.
- The ARP will maintain FM systems for pupils in school.
- ARP staff will advise on soundfield systems to schools where deemed appropriate.
- ARP staff will encourage the school to establish good listening conditions and do acoustic audits.
- The ARP staff will support families to establish good hearing aid / processor use, and to maintain equipment appropriately.
- Information will be available on a range of audiological issues for teachers and families.
- All staff in the school have attended deaf awareness training as part of their induction and as a yearly refresher.
- Class Teachers will receive further training from the QToD's to support the audiological needs of the students in their classes.

Conclusion

This policy will ensure that all pupils receive the optimum amplification to best meet their needs and that the equipment is always maintained in good working order. Hearing aid provision will be evaluated and verified, and changes will be made, as necessary.