Sensory Support
Supporting deaf babies and pre-school children

Birmingham City Council

HEARING SUPPORT TEAM
Supporting babies and pre-school children

Your baby has been diagnosed with a hearing loss and we are here to support you and your child.

Babies and pre-school children are referred to the team from the Neonatal Hearing Screening Programme. Children may also be referred by audiology departments, ENT departments, early years settings and parents. We are able to provide timely and appropriate support to children and their families immediately after the hearing impairment has been diagnosed.

During home visits or visits to your child’s early years setting we will:

- Share information about deafness and the impact of deafness on your child’s development
- Advise on hearing aids/cochlear implants and development of listening skills
- Provide guidance and support on language and communication development
- Jointly assess needs, set targets and monitor progress
- Offer practical and emotional support for you and your family
- Support transition into early years settings and mainstream school
- Promote the inclusion of children with hearing impairment in early years settings
- Liaise with audiology departments, and specialist services – e.g. Speech and Language Therapy
- Provide information about support groups and voluntary agencies
Who are we?
• Specialist teachers of deaf children
• Specialist teaching assistants
• Educational audiologist
• Sign language tutor

‘Listen, Talk and Play’ Sessions
We provide regular opportunities for parents and children to meet together at our ‘Listen, Talk and Play’ sessions. Here you can meet other parents who also have a child with a hearing loss.

Our specialist staff will be there to advise and model communication, language and listening activities. Our Educational Audiologist regularly attends these groups to check hearing aids and offer advice.
**Referrals**
We receive referrals from ENT consultants, audiologists, schools, other services and parents. We are only able to support children/young people who have been issued with hearing aids/cochlear implants.

**Access to Education**
www.birmingham.gov.uk/access-to-education

**My Care in Birmingham**
www.mycareinbirmingham.org.uk

**Contact us:**
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