Our aims

1. To have high expectations of the educational standards deaf children and young people can achieve, by promoting high-quality inclusive practice.

2. To enable deaf children and young people to develop age-appropriate language and communication skills to maximise their educational achievements.

3. To make sure parents have clear and unbiased information to help them make informed decisions about their child, and to make sure that they understand the effects of deafness.

4. To provide practical advice and support to parents, carers and schools on all aspects of language and communication.

5. To help children use and look after hearing aids, cochlear implants and radio aids.

6. To support parents’ chosen mode of communication with their child.

7. To help parents make contact with other families with deaf children.

8. To help deaf children develop a positive self image.

9. To build positive relationships with parents, carers and professionals.

10. To promote child-centred multi-agency working.

Our commitment

The Hearing Support Service is committed to providing a high-quality service to all children with a significant hearing loss by promoting rich linguistic experiences to help them progress through education. We aim to make sure that all children in Cambridgeshire have equal access to education.

Contact details

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Teachers of the deaf provide...
- Support to children from the moment they are identified as being deaf.
- Support and advice to families and carers.
- Support to children if they use a hearing aid and go to their local mainstream school.
- Advice and training to teachers and teaching assistants.
- Specialist equipment such as radio aid systems, and appropriate training on how to use the equipment.
- Advice about the statutory assessment process and annual reviews.
- Liaison with other relevant professionals.

The support we offer can include...
- Explaining how a hearing loss can affect a child’s education.
- Monitoring how well a child can hear using a hearing aid, to give them access to speech, language and the curriculum.
- Advice about modifying the National Curriculum, setting Individual Education Plan targets, and classroom management.
- Monitoring and supporting children during early years education, and at transition between educational settings.
- Signed communication.

- Assessing communication skills.
- Direct teaching, depending on an individual child’s needs.
- Giving advice on language development.
- Giving advice to schools on recruiting and selecting staff to work with deaf pupils.
- Support from a Deaf Support Worker.
- Checking hearing aids and radio aids to ensure they are working properly.

Teachers of the deaf work in partnership with...
- Teaching Assistants
- Class teachers
- The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator or the senior management team of a school.
- Parents.
- Audiology and ENT departments.
- Other professionals involved with the child.

Teachers of the deaf have a role in...
- Providing information and training about deafness and hearing aids.
- Raising expectations of deaf children’s educational standards.
- Helping children to be fully included in their school.
- Planning and monitoring the support a child needs for access to the curriculum.
- Making changes to the way in which the curriculum is delivered to meet a deaf child’s needs.
- Providing feedback to staff on a child’s progress and needs.

This partnership involves...
- Joint planning with colleagues involved with an individual child.
- Providing information and training about deafness and hearing aids.
- Co-ordinating guidance on meeting children’s needs.
- Working with Teaching Assistants to help children access the curriculum.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of the support a child receives.