

Severe Hearing Loss

The Child or Young Person (CYP) cannot access any sounds of speech without hearing aids or cochlear implants (CI)

Implications for learning

The CYP may:

- be vulnerable to underachieving
- need support to access the curriculum
- find listening in a busy environment very challenging
- miss or mishear instructions
- miss out on incidental learning- which is important for language development
- have a limited vocabulary
- have a speech and language delay
- have difficulty concentrating and become tired quickly
- find social interactions challenging eg breaktimes



Ways to help

- CYP should sit at the front and to the side of the classroom with a clear view of the board and the teacher's face. CYP should sit next to a good role model
- Keep background noise to a minimum. Close doors and windows and switch off unnecessary equipment
- Speak clearly, naturally, at a normal pace facing the CYP. Ensure your face is not in shadow
- Do not move around the room when speaking
- Get the CYP's attention before speaking
- Repeat questions and contributions of other pupils to ensure they have been heard clearly
- Use careful questioning to ensure the CYP's understanding
- Rephrase rather than repeat statements if they are misunderstood
- CYP may need pre and post teaching of new/key vocabulary and concepts
- Reinforce new/key vocabulary visually e.g. writing on the board, use pictures and artefacts
- Provide opportunities to work outside the classroom for group work
- Ensure the CYP is using their hearing aids/CI/radio aids consistently and effectively
- Always use subtitles on videos (check they are accurate first). Ensure that discussion does not take place with the lights off



Other resources

www.berkshiresensoryconsortium.co.uk
www.ndcs.org.uk

Related sheets
 Hearing aids
 Cochlear implants
 Radio aids
 Room acoustics