

Quick Guide to Hearing Loss and Deaf Support Team

What do we do?

We are a team comprising Teachers of the Deaf and Specialist Learning Practitioners who hold qualifications and/or have a vast amount of experience working with Children and Young People (CYP) who are deaf.

We offer support to any CYP who are deaf from birth to the time they leave school and beyond. The range of deafness experienced by the CYP may be mild, moderate, severe or profound in degree and some may have additional needs that are sometimes complex.

What services and support can we offer?

- The service provides a range of services tailored to the needs of the individual deaf CYP
- We support families right from the point their baby or child is diagnosed with a hearing loss, helping them to understand their child's hearing levels and the implications for their development.
- We run a 'Fieldmice', a support group for pre-school children and their families.
- Offer Family Sign language classes in the home or virtually.
- Advise and / or train teachers and support staff in a variety of educational settings on deaf awareness strategies for the classroom and necessary modifications to the curriculum.
- Liaise with health services, including Ear Nose Throat (ENT) surgeons, Audiology, Midlands Hearing Implant Programme and Speech and Language Therapy.
- Ensure CYP have optimally working hearing aids.
- Conduct observations and functional hearing tests to monitor impact of deafness.
- Advise on need for and functioning of additional listening devices such as radio aids.
- Teach deaf CYP.
- Liaise with other specialist teams (e.g. vision, early years, EHC Assessment Team), settings and parents.
- Support social and emotional development/skills for good mental health and self-esteem.
- Monitor progress and attend annual review meetings and target setting meetings.

For more information please contact:

Deaf and Hearing loss Inclusion and Advisory Team - Walsall Children's Services, Civic Centre, Darwall Street,, Walsall, WS1 1TP

Email: accessinclusionadminteam@walsall.gov.uk