

Access and Inclusion – Children’s Disability Service
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*If you require this leaflet in another format / font or language
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**North
Lincolnshire
Council**

**Support Services for Disabled Children
and their Families**

Learning Skills and Culture
Access and Inclusion
Children’s Disability Service

Guide to
Hearing Support Team

Our purpose

The Hearing Support Team works with children and young people 0-25 and the professionals who support them. We specialise in how deaf and hearing impaired children and young people learn and develop.

We work with children and young people in their nurseries, schools and colleges but may sometimes work with children and parents in their own homes.

We work with parents and professionals to enable every child with a hearing impairment to achieve full potential by early intervention, ongoing advice, effective support and appropriate educational placement

Teachers of the Deaf and Specialist Teaching Assistants work in partnership with parents and professionals to understand the needs of deaf and hearing impaired children and young people better. They help them develop their own skills to work with children and young people.

How to ask for our involvement

Where parental consent is given, the Hearing Support Team becomes involved when a child/young person is identified as having a hearing loss, and the decision is made to fit hearing aids.

Children are often identified as having a hearing loss soon after birth, through the Universal Neo-natal Hearing Screening Programme.

Older children/young people can be referred to Audiology through their GP or school nurse.

Support provided to children, young people and families

A Teacher of the Deaf is usually present in audiology clinics to provide an integrated service for the whole family.

Pre-school support is given in the home to the families of those children identified through the Neo-natal Hearing Screening Programme

Individual specialist speech and language teaching and curriculum support is provided for pupils attending their local schools by a qualified Teacher of the Deaf.

Specialist Teaching Assistants help implement individual speech and language programmes and provide in-class support to ensure access to the curriculum.

Advice is given to schools on the use and management of specialist audiological equipment such as radio aids and sound field systems. Support is provided to schools, settings and other agencies.

The Hearing Support Team works in a variety of ways to give support to schools, parents or carers and other professionals.

These include:

- Consultation
- Training staff—deaf awareness, strategies for inclusion
- Deaf awareness training for children
- Group work for children and young people
- Individual work
- Assessing the needs of children and young people
- Providing advice
- Person centred planning
- Liaison with Audiology
- Management of audiological equipment