

Advice for Pre-school settings

Children with hearing loss

Strategies to support inclusion:

Ensure hearing equipment is working and is worn all the time

Reasonable adjustments to improve listening conditions

Reduce background noise

- ensure doors are shut
- turn off electrical equipment that is not being used
- use fabric in rooms on wall and table displays to absorb sound
- fix plastic buffers on chairs or table legs to reduce noise
- encourage all the children to use a quiet talking voice
- choose the quietest space when doing talking and listening activities

Lighting – it helps if:

- the child has a good view of your face so avoid glare from lights/sun
- the child sits with the light behind them so that all speaker's face is in the light

Deaf friendly ways of communicating

- Be visible and audible.
- Speak clearly, naturally and at a normal pace
- Sit child near the front and to the side of the group, close to the speaker.
Repeat/paraphrase what other children say
- Use visual props when telling stories
- Use child's name before talking to them to gain attention
- Stand still when talking and move nearer
- Use any additional listening aids as advised

Ensure all staff working in the setting have access to this advice.