



Audiology Department

Listening and Language Skills

Information for patients, parents and carers

This information leaflet aims to help you develop your child's listening and language skills. Not all of hearing is just sound, you can develop your listening skills and this will aid better communication.

- Try to ensure they wear their hearing aid(s) during all waking hours and regularly check they are working properly.
- Try to reduce background noise and stay close to your child so they can hear you better.
- Get on your child's level, face to face, even when doing activities.
- Speak clearly and in sentences.
- Focus on listening, not just seeing, for example:
 - Call attention to sounds and conversations.
 - Point to your ear and smile.
 - Talk about the sounds and what they mean.
 - Use listening words like; "you heard that", "you were listening" and "I heard you".
- Sing nursery rhymes and read aloud to your child as often as possible.
- Name objects around you as you encounter them during daily routines (this helps to expand their vocabulary).
- Describe things and talk about how they sound, look and feel.
- Talk about where objects are located, using words like *in, on, under, behind, beside, next to, between*.
- Compare how objects are similar and different in size, shape, quantity, smell, colour and texture
- As you carry out daily activities talk about the steps involved, for example; "Mummy's putting the clothes in the washing machine, and then we put the powder in, and now we close the door....".
- Tell familiar stories or stories about events from the day or your past, with increasing complexity as your child gets older.

Above all, share as many activities as you can and have fun!

If you would like any more information, advice, or have any questions or comments please contact the Audiology Team on:

Tel: 0151 252 5933

E-mail: audiologymail@alderhey.nhs.uk

Fax: 0151 252 5417

This leaflet only gives general information. You must always discuss the individual treatment of your child with the appropriate member of staff. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about your child's treatment.

This information can be made available in other languages and formats if requested.

Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust
Alder Hey
Eaton Road
Liverpool
L12 2AP
Tel: 0151 228 4811
www.alderhey.nhs.uk

Aud/F/4 ©Alderhey 2015. Date of next review November 2017 PIAG 035

