

Hearing aids

Information for families

Hearing aids are designed to help your child have the best possible opportunity to experience sounds in the world around them. They aim to increase the level of sound your child hears, and to make speech sounds clearer.

Your audiologist will discuss with you whether hearing aid(s) may be beneficial for your child and their individual needs. This will continue to be reviewed throughout their childhood. Depending on the results from the hearing assessment, hearing aids may be recommended in both ears or one ear. It is likely that your child will be fitted with the style of hearing aid pictured below



Hearing aid care - earmould impressions, hearing aid fittings and maintenance are managed by your local hearing aid audiology team.

If you decide that your child will try hearing aid(s), the first step is to take impressions of your child's ear(s) so that earmoulds can be made. A convenient time and date for this to be done will be arranged with you by your local hearing aid audiology team. They will be based either in Bath, Swindon, Salisbury or Taunton, depending on where you live.

Earmould impressions - Special soft putty is put in your child's ear which will go firm/hard after a few minutes and then be removed. This process doesn't cause any pain to your child but you may need to hold them still as it is essential that an exact impression is taken of their ear to ensure that the resulting earmould fits well. Babies usually need new ear moulds every two weeks. The older your child gets the less frequently new moulds will be needed.

Hearing aid fitting - Once the ear mould is returned, a convenient appointment will be arranged with you to fit the hearing aid(s). Your child will be fitted with digital hearing aid(s) which are programmed to suit their individual hearing needs based on their hearing assessment results. Your local hearing aid audiology team will let you know the appointment details.

More information on hearing aids in children

National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS)

T: 0808 800 8880

W: www.ndcs.org.uk

For further advice please speak to a member of our team

t: 0300 247 0200

e: bswchildrens.enquiries@hrcgcaregroup.com

w: <https://bswcommunityservices.co.uk/services/childrens-audiology-banes-wiltshire/>

