

4. Sensory and/or Physical Needs

B: Hearing Impairment

NB - The professional judgement of a Qualified Teacher of the Deaf should be applied to decide on the implications of a hearing impairment/Deafness. For example a pupil may have a moderate to severe hearing loss but be functioning within a different hearing category due to individual communication and access needs and/or additional learning difficulties.

Universal Descriptor Level 1

Identification and Assessment

Teaching and Learning Strategies, Resources and Physical Environment

The pupil has a classified hearing loss (see descriptor below). The pupil's needs can be met through access to whole class learning but they may require low level modification to the presentation of materials. Environmental considerations may also need to be considered.

Hearing loss classified as mild with unaided threshold between 0 – 30 dBHL, or mild conductive 0 – 40 dBHL, or an asymmetrical conductive loss. Temporary condition, or history of conductive hearing problems.

NATSIP Criteria ≤ 20

School may notice difficulties and recommend a hearing assessment through the GP

Adjustments to Teaching Methods:

- Attention will need to be paid to seating position in classroom and the listening environment
- Wave 1 (Quality First Teaching) with a specific consideration for children with hearing impairment
- Consideration of seating position
- Consideration of environmental factors that promote good listening and watching conditions
- Consistent use of any audiological equipment provided
- Advice from specialist teacher is implemented in the classroom

Support provided by the HI team:

- One-off advice from specialist teacher to assess functional hearing in school setting, advice given on reasonable adjustments that enables access to all curriculum areas
- CPD training offer taken up by school to raise awareness of different types of hearing impairment and strategies to reduce barriers to learning

Additional advice and support is available from:

Consultancy support from the Service for Deaf and Hearing Impaired Children