

Plane
Crash
ouch
play
blue
string
bus
laugh
clown
bright
bag
kitty
daisy
red
hair
Daisy
Spin

What next?

YOUR PAEDIATRIC APPOINTMENT
PROGRAM WITH AUSTRALIAN HEARING

daisy
Spoon
roll
orange
Utang
trap
Leap
ping
Squid
poke
yellow
phile



Welcome to Australian Hearing
Dealing with your child's diagnosis
of a hearing loss can be difficult and
confusing. We are here to help.



This booklet will guide you through what to expect when you visit our hearing centre. It also includes details about the ongoing care we can provide for your child.


Who are we?

Australian Hearing is funded by the Australian Government to look after the hearing needs of children, from birth until 21 years of age, who have a permanent or long term hearing loss.

There is no charge for our service. If your child is fitted with hearing aids, they can be provided at no cost other than a low annual maintenance fee.

Your child will be seen by one of our audiologists who specialise in paediatric audiology. Their role is to provide you with information, support and guidance in hearing loss, hearing aids if required, and follow up assessments.





play
plate
crash
ouch
play
blue
string
bus
laugh
dizzy
bright
bag
kitty
dancing
red
hair
paint
spin

Our Services

damp
speech
roll
grass
Utang
trap
leap
ping
squirrel
poke
yellow
paste
crash
spiky
waaah!
yippee!
clay
cup

What services do we provide?

We will work with you to plan a program that suits your child's individual needs. We understand that while we are the experts in hearing, you are the expert in your own child and family. Your audiologist can offer the following services:

- * Hearing assessment
- * Supply and fitting of hearing aids and personal FM (radio frequency) aids if required
- * Ongoing monitoring of your child's hearing and hearing aids
- * Liaison with medical, educational and other professionals who work with your child
- * Visits to specialist schools for hearing impaired students
- * Onsite hearing aid repairs
- * Repairs and replacement parts for cochlear implant speech processors
- * Upgrade or replacement cochlear implant speech processors
- * Information to help you and your child understand and manage the hearing loss.

Working with you

We aim to offer appointments at your convenience, but certain times are more popular with many families.

If you require urgent assistance we will offer you an appointment within an appropriate time frame, but you may need to accept a time that is not your first preference.

Our aim is for you to see the same audiologist for each appointment. However, this is not always possible if, for example, you require an urgent appointment or your audiologist is on leave or working at another hearing centre.

We can provide you with an attendance certificate to help with leave requirements in your work place.



A close-up, profile view of a young boy with dark hair, looking upwards and to the right. He is wearing a clear, behind-the-ear hearing aid on his left ear. The background is a bright, out-of-focus yellow. The text "Newly diagnosed hearing loss" is overlaid on the left side of the image. A decorative graphic of thin, curved white lines is visible in the lower-left corner, overlapping the boy's shoulder and the text.

Newly diagnosed
hearing loss

YOUR FIRST APPOINTMENT

If your child has been diagnosed with a hearing loss, we will offer you an appointment within ten working days of us receiving the referral. At your first appointment we will talk to you about your child's results, and may do further hearing tests if required. We will explain the effects of the hearing loss, answer your questions and work with you to decide the best way to proceed. If hearing aids are recommended then we will take impressions of your child's ear using a soft putty material.

The appointment usually takes 60 to 90 minutes and you are welcome to bring a friend or relative along.

HEARING AID FITTING APPOINTMENT

This appointment will be held approximately ten working days after the earmould impression is made and will also take 60 to 90 minutes. The hearing aids will be adjusted to suit your child's hearing loss and individual ear canal shape. We will show you or your child how to operate the hearing aids and will discuss a routine for wearing them.

We will also talk to you about educational support that is available and arrange a referral for further support if you wish.

FOLLOW UP APPOINTMENT

We will review your child's progress with the hearing aids and answer any questions you or your child may have. We will work with you to solve any problems that have occurred since the hearing aids were fitted. As a result of these discussions, we may adjust the hearing aids or test how well your child can hear with them. We will then decide on the most appropriate review schedule.

FURTHER FOLLOW UP APPOINTMENTS

The timing and content of further appointments will depend on your child's individual situation and age. Babies and toddlers may require several appointments for fine-tuning the hearing aids and dealing with behavioural issues related to their use. We will evaluate the benefits of fitting hearing aids using a parent questionnaire; you may be asked to spend time observing your child in-between appointments.

It is normally quicker to obtain more comprehensive results with older children. A school-aged child may be reviewed in three or six months after the follow up appointment if we are satisfied that the hearing aids have been optimally adjusted.

clap
plate
crash
ouch
play
blue
string
bus
laugh
dizzy
bright
bag
kitty
drum
red
hair
point
spin

Ongoing care

damp
speech
roll
trace
Utang
trap
leap
ping
squirt
poke
yellow
paste
crash
spiky
waaa!
yippee
damp
cup



EARMOULD IMPRESSIONS

Growing children need new earmoulds regularly, depending on their age and hearing loss:

- * Infants: every month to six weeks
- * Babies and toddlers: every three to four months
- * Older children: once or twice per year.

Earmould impression appointments can be made as required.

REVIEW PROGRAMS

Once the hearing aids are adjusted, children are placed onto a review program. Each year, at the start of your child's review program, your audiologist will discuss your concerns and plan activities to help meet your goals and our paediatric protocols.

A typical review program would include:

- * Preschoolers: two to four appointments per year
- * School age children: one appointment per year.

You can expect:

- * One hearing test per year
- * An annual assessment of your child's listening ability with their hearing aids
- * Review of the hearing aids to ensure they are still appropriate for your child's needs and/or any new technological advances in aids
- * Discussion about other devices or services which may benefit your child.

Further appointments may be arranged depending upon your child's individual needs and goals. For example:

- * FM fitting
- * Comprehensive assessment of speech perception ability
- * Additional monitoring of hearing
- * Information sessions about hearing, hearing loss, hearing aids, other assistive devices.



Other services

You can bring your child's hearing aids in for repair at any time during office hours without an appointment.

Please contact your hearing centre if you have any concerns about your child's hearing.

If you think your child's hearing is suddenly worse, please contact us urgently and we will offer you an appointment within 24 hours.







Australian
Hearing®

YOU CAN BE CONNECTED TO YOUR
NEAREST *AUSTRALIAN HEARING*
CENTRE BY CALLING 131 797

www.hearing.com.au



MPR3287 NOV 06