

## **People who may work with you and your child**

- **AUDIOLOGIST** - This is the person that carries out the hearing tests on your child. They may be involved in taking the ear moulds, fitting the hearing aid and explaining how to look after the hearing aids.
- **EDUCATION AUDIOLOGIST** – A qualified Teacher of the Deaf who also has a qualification in audiology. They can give guidance about hearing assessments and hearing support.
- **EDUCATION PSYCHOLOGIST** – A qualified psychologist who also has additional training in teaching. They are sometimes involved in the Statmenting process and can help children who find it difficult to learn, understand or communicate with others.
- **ENT CONSULTANT** – An ENT consultant is a doctor who specialises in the diagnosis and treatment of ear, nose and throat conditions. They will interpret the information given by the hearing test to determine the level of deafness and should tell you the options available.
- **GP (GENERAL PRACTITIONER)** – A family doctor who is often the first point of contact if you are worried about your child. In most cases the GP will refer you to an Audiologist or specialist for further tests or treatment when appropriate.
- **HEALTH VISITOR** – This is a qualified nurse who has further training in health care. They give help and advice to families about the care of young children. They see babies for routine screening tests such as distraction for hearing and development assessments.
- **INDEPENDENT PARENTAL SUPPORTER** – An independent parental supporter can offer support and help to parents to express their views during assessment for a statement. They may be someone from a voluntary organisation, parent partnership organisation, or may be a friend or relative.

- LANGUAGE AIDE - A trained person who has personal experience of hearing loss who works directly with the deaf child and family to increase communication and to give an understanding of what it is like to be deaf.
- PAEDIATRICIAN – A doctor who specialises in working with babies and children.
- PERIPATETIC TEACHER OF THE DEAF – A teacher with specific expertise who travels from school to school and is employed by the local education service to give the right specialist advice and support to the child and the school. Often they will also teach deaf children with special educational needs on a sessional basis, usually when the school does not need the services of a full time teacher. They will also visit the home in the case of pre-school children.
- SOCIAL WORKER FOR DEAF PEOPLE – A social worker who specialises in working with deaf people. They can support families with claiming welfare benefits or with obtaining equipment. They may also help families to access other services, such as family sign language classes.
- SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS CO-ORDINATOR – A teacher who has been designated by the school to identify children with a special educational need and to make sure they receive appropriate support.
- SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPIST – A person who offers assessment, treatment and advice to people of all ages who have communication difficulties.
- TEACHER OF THE DEAF – A qualified teacher who is additionally qualified to teach deaf children. They provide support to deaf children, their parents and family, and to other professionals who are involved with the child's education.
- TEACHING ASSISTANT/LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT/ CLASSROOM ASSISTANT – A member of the school staff who works with an individual child or a small group of children. They are often involved in carrying out teaching and speech and language programmes alongside teachers of the deaf.