

Tips for testing children with behaviour/cognitive/learning challenges (Triple Factor Hearing Screener)

Children with behaviour, cognitive or learning issues may need more support to complete the Triple Factor Hearing Screener. (Please note: some children may not be able to complete the test. In this instance we recommend following up with the child's doctor or a hearing specialist).

- Plan to **spend more time** with the child doing the test as they may need to repeat sections.
- Provide **one-on-one supervision**.
- Test **early in the day**, ensuring the child has **been to the bathroom** and is **not hungry**.
- Set up the testing in an **area with no distractions** (i.e. don't seat them next to a window or other children or in school corridors).
- Explain that the **sounds will get quieter and quieter** and there will be times when they can't hear anything and this is normal. Encourage them not to touch the screen until they hear the next sound. Provide this explanation before and after the Trial Run activities.
- **Complete the three Trial Run** activities to ensure the child can **confidently undertake each one** without assistance. You may wish to run through the Trial Run activities several times before initiating a test. You should also quit out of the Trial Run activities once the child demonstrates competency.
- If the child **struggles with the Trial Run activities, unplug the headphones** and complete the activities together. Once confident, plug the headphones in and confirm the child can complete the activities unassisted.
- **Stand behind the child** while they are testing to avoid interrupting their concentration.
- **Positive reinforcement (eg thumbs up) is not required** unless the child is actively seeking validation.
- If they need to **redo a section**, take the time to **let them know they are doing a good job**. Remind them not to touch the screen if they can't hear anything and tell them to wait for the next sound.
- If a **fail/borderline result** is received, a **second test must be done to confirm the results**. We recommend waiting a day before retesting but when retesting must be done on the same day ensure the child has a break between test sessions.
- Contact Sound Scouts for a **review of results** if needed.
- If the child is **unable to complete the Triple Factor Hearing Screener** you may wish to test with the Automatic Audiometer provided you have the appropriate equipment.

**Sound Scouts is always happy to provide further assistance and can be contacted on
1300 424 122 or contact@soundscouts.com.au**