

Hearing Loss Indicators in Students

Name: _____ School: _____ Teacher: _____

This checklist is a useful resource for teachers to use when they suspect a possible hearing loss in one of their students.

Below are indicators of hearing issues (including glue ear). If your student shows these identifiers please tick the corresponding box and provide to the school nurse or the student's parent or guardian with the recommendation of completing a Sound Scouts hearing test.

Remember that 'glue ear' comes and goes. Some students may have symptoms some weeks/ months but not the next.

Behavioural Identifiers			
You notice it is obvious that the child watches your face to lip read		Aggressive to others, this can be spontaneous and out of character	
Asks peers for confirmation of what has been said or watches others to see what to do.		Sits on the outside or back of the class and is reluctant to participate	
Often says "what" or "huh"		Poor socialisation skills	
Inattentive- this can be inconsistent		Sits close to the TV, or has TV too loud	
Responds inappropriately or is slow to respond to instructions.		Appears confused or mood change when there is a lot of noise or sudden loud noises.	
Loses interest during story time or direct instructions		Erratic classroom behavior which is out of character	
Fidgets and easily distracted		Fear of failure	

Learning Identifiers			
Has learning difficulties		Demands a lot of teacher attention	
Short attention span		Poor auditory memory and sequencing	
Delayed language development		Ability to connect words in age appropriate way	

Speech Identifiers			
Has difficulty with or doesn't use: s, p, t, f, th and sh		Confuses b and d , m and n or similar words	
Speaks in soft or loud voice		Difficulty in understanding their speech	
Speech development below age			

Physical Identifiers			
Runny nose- often or for long periods		Ooze from the ear	
Constant nasal allergies - this blocks the Eustachian tube as it swells shut		Often tired or complains of headaches	
Mouth breather - an easy indication for teachers to take notice of as if the nose is full you have to breathe through the mouth!			
Recurring ear and chest infections			
Poor gross motor skills/ difficulties with balance			
Complaining of sore ears and throat			

Please ✓ if there are known additional disabilities.			
Autism		Downs Syndrome	
Ushers Syndrome		Cytomegalavirus (CMV)	
Cleft Palate		Treacher Collins Syndrome	
Bacterial Meningitis (at what age?)			

Please comment if there are other known diagnosed conditions or relevant information to support your concerns.



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