



Audiology Department Hearing Aid Information

Information for patients, parents and carers

Your child has been fitted with digital hearing aid(s).

The aid(s) have been set up, or 'programmed', using the information from their hearing test. This tells us the amount of amplification needed for each of the pitches of sound important for hearing and using speech.

These are the aids your child has been given:

Right hearing aid Model and serial no	
Left hearing aid Model and serial no	

As each aid is set specifically for either the right or the left ear you should make sure not to mix them up, so we have marked:

RIGHT aid with a **RED** dot

LEFT aid with a **BLUE** dot



The marker can be found at the back of the hearing aid.

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WARNING

Hearing aids do pose a choking hazard to children, please ensure children are supervised at all times when wearing the hearing aids to prevent the risk of them swallowing pieces such as earmoulds or batteries

Daily Checks

- Check the aids are working every morning by switching each aid on and cupping your hands around it—if it is working you will hear a whistling sound.
- Have a look at the aids and earmoulds, and check that there is nothing blocking the tubing like ear wax or condensation. Small amount of wax can be picked out, but if there is a lot you may need to replace the tubing (see separate leaflet on how to do this).
- It is also useful to regularly have a listen to the aids using the listening clip we give you. You will get used to how the aids should sound and so be able to detect if there are any problems.
- A table of common problems and possible solutions is found later on in this leaflet.

If there are any problems you cannot solve please contact the Audiology Department.

You should have been given a care pack containing all of the relevant equipment, if you did not please call the department and we will arrange one for you.

Care packs contain small pieces so please keep out of the reach of children to prevent choking hazards

Hearing Aid and Earmould Care

- Avoid getting the hearing aids wet.
- Keep the earmoulds clean by wiping them with a damp cloth.
- If necessary you can take the hearing aid off the earmould so the earmould can be washed separately.
- When the hearing aids are not in use, store them in the drying pot or hearing aid box (keep drying pots and tablets out of the reach of children).

Batteries

The hearing aids take size 13 batteries, which usually have an orange packet/sticker.

We supply the batteries—you can either call in and collect them or you can request them over the telephone and we will post them out.

Each battery lasts around one week, so we suggest that you put a new battery in once a week, for example every Sunday.

When putting a new battery in make sure it is the correct way up.

We may add a lock to the battery compartment to stop young children accessing the battery. If so, we will show you how to use the battery lock .

Switching on and off

To switch the aid ON: press in the battery compartment

To switch the hearing aid OFF: open the battery compartment.

Volume control

This is usually inactive for young children to prevent them from altering the hearing aid settings—we will advise you if we have activated it for a specific reason.

In either case the hearing aid will automatically adjust itself depending on the level of sound around your child, for example, the aid will reduce the level of loud sounds so that it is always at a comfortable level.

Programmes

The hearing aids are set with a basic programme that is suitable for all everyday listening situations. However, sometimes we will add additional programmes, for example, for use with a loop system, or a radio aid.

If we have set any additional programmes, they are accessed by pressing the programme button. For example, if the aids are set with 2 programmes, pressing the button once takes you to P2 and pressing it again takes you back to P1. If you are not sure which programme the aid is on, switch it off and on again—*it always starts on P1*.

Some children use an FM system with their aids in school—if so, we will set the aids for this and explain how it works

Summary of Hearing Aid Settings

Programme	Use
1	
2	
3	
Volume Control	
FM set-up	

Common Problems

Problem	Possible cause	Solution
Aid 'dead'	?Dead battery	Try new battery
	?Battery wrong way round	Check battery inserted correctly
	?Tubing blocked	Clear blockage or replace tubing
	?Aid faulty	Contact Audiology for appointment
Aid whistling when in ear	? Earmould not inserted correctly	Re-insert Earmould
	? Earmould poor fit	Make appointment with Audiology for new impression
	?Build up of wax in ear canal	Make appointment with Audiology to check ear
	? Check tubing	If torn replace, or contact Audiology Department
Problem with sound	? Condensation in tubing	Clear with earmould puffer
	?Aid become damp	Place in drying pot overnight
	?Aid faulty	Contact Audiology for appointment

If you would like any more information, advice, or have any questions or comments please contact the Audiology Team on:

Tel: 0151 252 5933 E-mail: audiolgymail@alderhey.nhs.uk Fax: 0151 252 5417

This leaflet only gives general information. You must always discuss the individual treatment of your child with the appropriate member of staff. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about your child's treatment. This information can be made available in other languages and formats if requested.

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