



Transitioning from children's to adult audiology services

Information for patients with a learning disability using audiology (hearing) services at the Royal Berkshire Hospital.

What is transition?

Transition means moving on from one service to another one. You have been given this leaflet as you will soon be moving from the children's audiology service to the adult audiology service.

This leaflet explains what to expect and has some information about hearing and hearing aids (if you use them).



You are now old enough to be seen in the Adult Audiology Clinic.

You will have to go to Audiology 2 for your appointments.




At the appointment you will see an audiologist, who will look in your ears and check your hearing.

The audiologist will then discuss the results with you and your carer or family member.



The audiologist may suggest that you try a hearing aid to see if it helps with your hearing.

| | |
|--|---|
|  <p>Your next appointment</p> | <p>If you need a hearing aid, we will arrange another appointment to fit one for you.</p> |
|--|---|

How often will I be seen in the adult audiology clinic?

If you do not need a hearing aid we will recheck your hearing every 2 years, but you can see us more often if you need to.

If you need to contact us, call 0118 322 7238 or email audiology@royalberkshire.nhs.uk

Will I need to pay for anything?

Behind-the-ear hearing aids, earmoulds and batteries are all free in the Adult Audiology Service.

Where do I get hearing aid batteries?

You can get new batteries with your battery card at your GP surgery.

You can also post your battery card to us with a stamped addressed envelope and we will post the batteries back to you. Our address is:

Audiology Department
Royal Berkshire Hospital
London Road
Reading RG1 5AN



What happens if my hearing aid is not working?

If you have any problems with your hearing aids, you can book a repairs appointment on our website: <https://www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk/hearingaidrepairs/>

You can also phone us on 0118 322 7238 (Monday-Friday 8.30am-5pm) and we can help you make an appointment to fix your hearing aids.

You can also request hearing aid replacement parts to be posted to you on our website: www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk/hearingaidrepairs/

My hearing and hearing aid passport

Name: *Insert full name here*

Latest audiogram: *Insert latest audiogram date*

Insert split audiogram graph here

Description: _____

Hearing aids:

| Ear | Right | Left |
|----------------------------|-------|------|
| Hearing aid make and model | | |
| Style | | |
| Colour | | |
| Ear mould | | |
| Tubing | | |
| Battery size | | |
| Programmes | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| Radio aid | | |
| Prescription | | |

Equipment and other useful tools

There are lots of things that can help you if you are deaf or hard of hearing. Some will help you at home and other equipment works with hearing aids to help you while you are at college or at work.

Note: Some assistive listening devices only work with a specific type of hearing aid. Talk to your transition audiologist about what you need and they will be able to help you find the best product for you.

- **Listening devices** work with hearing aids or cochlear implants to reduce background noise. Types of listening devices are loop systems, personal listening aids and connections to smart phones, tablets and computers.
- **Radio aids** connect to your hearing aids and can be helpful to reduce background noise to allow you to concentrate on one person's voice.
- **Alerting devices** use light, vibration, sound (or all 3) to alert you to alarms going off in your home. Examples include telephone indicators, pagers, doorbells, smoke detectors and alarm clocks.
- **Subtitles and sign language.** Most programmes on television have subtitle options and some include sign language interpreters. Online videos also often have subtitles although these are usually automatically generated so are not always correct. There are YouTube channels and TV programmes in BSL made by and for Deaf people.
- **Communication technology** will help you use the telephone and your mobile phone. What you can use will depend on your level of hearing loss.



More information on equipment can be found at:

<https://rnid.org.uk/>

www.ndcs.org.uk

www.connevans.co.uk

www.fmhearingsystems.co.uk

<https://www.resound.com/en-gb/hearing-aids/accessories>

If you are interested in any of the products and would like further information or advice, please talk to your audiologist.

Local social services' Deaf Services Teams can give you information about benefits, registration and assistive devices.

Contact your local Deaf Services Team directly to find out more information and self-refer for an assessment, using the contact details below.

Useful links

Social Services Deaf Services Teams

The teams support adults and children who are deaf, hard of hearing or deafened, and their families. All team members can communicate in a variety of ways and can use sign language and lip speaking.

They can give advice and assistance on a wide range of issues leading to independent living, information on deaf issues, information on deaf support clubs and meeting other people and support from a social worker.

Reading

Adult Sensory Needs Team

Tel: **0118 937 3747**

Email: Adult.SensoryNeeds@reading.gov.uk

Newbury/West Berks

Sensory Needs Team

Turnham Green Park, Pincents Lane, Reading RG31 4UH

Tel: **0118 930 2777**

Mobile SMS: **07917 013803**

Sensoryneeds@westberks.gov.uk

RNID

Aim to make life fully inclusive for deaf people and those with hearing loss or tinnitus.

Telephone: **0808 808 0123**

Textphone: **0808 808 9000**

Text message: **0780 000 0360**

Email: information@rnid.org.uk

Website: <https://rnid.org.uk/>

National Deaf Children's Society

Expert, free, independent support and advice on a range of issues associated with childhood deafness, available to all children and young people up to the age of 25 years.

Telephone: **0808 800 8880**

Text message: **0786 00 22 888**

Email: ndcs@ndcs.org.uk Website: www.ndcs.org.uk; [Help and support for deaf young people](http://www.ndcs.org.uk/help-and-support-for-deaf-young-people) | [How you can get involved \(ndcs.org.uk\)](http://www.ndcs.org.uk/how-you-can-get-involved)
(<https://www.ndcs.org.uk/information-and-support/childhood-deafness/information-for-deaf-young-people/#>)

Reading Deaf Centre

Aim is to promote the interest and welfare of deaf and hearing impaired, and deaf and blind people of all ages and ethnic backgrounds in the Reading and surrounding area.

Reading Deaf Centre, 131-133 Cardiff Road, Reading RG1 8JF

Telephone: **0118 959 4969**

Text message: **07704 687298**

Email: info@readingdeafcentre.co.uk Website: <https://readingdeafcentre.co.uk/>

Connevans

Specialises in product development and supplies equipment suitable for deaf children and adults.

Telephone: **01737 247571**

Textphone: **01737 644016**

Email: info@connevans.com Website: www.connevans.com

FM Hearing Systems

Provides radio aid solutions. Their website contains a link to check whether you have to pay VAT (tax) when buying any equipment for personal use.

Telephone: **01535 279285**

Website: www.fmhearingsystems.co.uk

Danalogic Hearing Accessories

Online shop for wireless accessories for hearing aids:

www.wirelesshearing.co.uk, password = Unite

Telephone: **01869 352828**

Email: ehs@gnresound.com

When purchasing devices, you may be asked to enter the name of the hospital you got your hearing aids from.

Referral to fire services:

Can provide bespoke deaf support, including free home safety visits, sensory alarm installations (strobe lights and vibrating bed pads), and accessible emergency contact methods.

Berkshire: <https://www.rbfrs.co.uk/your-safety/safety-at-home/book-a-safe-and-well-visit/>

Oxfordshire: <https://livewell.oxfordshire.gov.uk/Services/4307/Safe-and-Well-Visits>

Contact details

Paediatric Audiology

Audiology 1, Royal Berkshire Hospital, London Road, Reading RG1 5AN

Telephone: **0118 322 7238**

Email: audiology.royalberkshire@nhs.net

Website: www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk/audiology

Adult Audiology

Audiology 2, Royal Berkshire Hospital, London Road, Reading RG1 5AN

Telephone: **0118 322 7238**

Email: audiology.royalberkshire@nhs.net

Website: www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk/audiology

Please ask if you need this information in another language or format.

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