

Paediatric Audiology
St Michael's Primary Care Centre,
Cedar House
Gater Drive
Enfield EN2 0JB

Tel: 020 3316 8074
Email: enfield.audiology@nhs.net

Dear Parents/Carers,

This letter is to inform you that all children in reception will be having their hearing screened by one of our school screeners. Hearing screens can detect any changes to your child's hearing; even a small change can affect their communication and academic performance. Each year we are finding a number of children with significant hearing losses through the school hearing screening programme. Every child who is born in the UK will have their hearing screened at birth. Despite passing this screen, hearing can change due to factors including ear infections, ear trauma, ear wax and more.

If your child does not pass their hearing screen in school, our screeners will repeat the hearing screen again after 6-8 weeks and if they do not pass the 2nd screen or were absent, a referral will be made to paediatric audiology. **Please note, if your child's GP is not in the Enfield or Barnet area, the referral will not be accepted, and a letter will be sent to you and your child's GP.**

As an NHS service we fully comply with GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018 with regards to the storage, retention and secure destruction of personal information about your child. More information is available at: <http://whittington.nhs.uk/default.asp?c=33205>

We will be asking the school for your contact details which will only be used should we need to refer your child to paediatric audiology. Please ensure that your school has your most up to date contact information. In relation to the screening results for your child, we hold the following personal details: NHS number, First and Last Name, Date of Birth, GP, Address, Telephone number, School and Class and, if provided, an email address.

You will receive a results slip on the same day at school. The class teacher will distribute these to parents.

Please inform the school in writing if your child has been fitted with a PVP Shunt as we cannot conduct the hearing screen if a shunt has been fitted.

If you **do not** wish for your child to have their hearing screened, please let the school know in writing as soon as possible.

For further information about the hearing screening programme, please select the following link <https://www.whittington.nhs.uk/document.ashx?id=15608>.

Kind regards,

Carol Ure, Kate Barnett, Charlotte Hawkins – School hearing screeners

Vibha Mistry - Chief Paediatric Audiologist

Chair: Baroness Julia Neuberger Chief Executive: Selina Douglas

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"We are here to help you. Thanks for treating us with respect"