



Cambridgeshire
County Council



SENSORY SUPPORT TEAM 0-25 YEARS

HEARING LOSS
VISUAL IMPAIRMENT

Our Commitment

We aim to support every child/young person with a medically diagnosed hearing loss or visual impairment to achieve their full academic and emotional potential in preparation for adulthood.

Who We Are

We are a team of:

- Qualified Teachers of the Deaf
- Qualified Teachers of the Visually Impaired
- Mobility Specialist
- Touch Typing Tutor
- Deaf Support Workers
- Specialist Teaching Assistants

What We Do

We work across the whole county, meeting the needs of individual children and their families.

We visit children at home, early years settings, school and colleges to provide advice, training and/or teaching for children/young people aged 0-25 years if they have a medically diagnosed hearing loss or visual impairment.

Hearing Support Centres

The Sensory Support Team 0-25, manages two specialist enhanced provisions (Hearing Support Centres) for children/young people who require daily specialist input from a Qualified Teacher of the Deaf and meet entry criteria. Our Hearing Support Centres are based at Mayfield Primary School and Cottenham Village College.

Thresholds for involvement

Children/young people with a medically diagnosed hearing loss or visual impairment who:

- Cannot read beyond the 4th line on an eye chart with glasses (if worn) - i.e. have measurements of 6/18 Snellen, 0.5 LogMAR or worse with both eyes open
- Have significantly reduced fields of vision
- Have a deteriorating eye condition
- Use technology, for example hearing aids or cochlear implants



Our Team Roles

Qualified Teachers of the Visually Impaired and Qualified Teachers of the Deaf will contact you once a referral from Health is received.

We will:

- Use Think Family principles to support and advise families/carers and children/young people
- Support with technology
- Deliver Awareness sessions around a child's/young person's needs
- Advise and train teachers and teaching assistants
- Advise on Education Health and Care Plans
- Liaise with other involved professionals such as Speech and Language Therapists and Audiologists
- Support with technology and teach specialist skills

Deaf Support Workers will:

- Lead on our Deaf Studies Curriculum at identified stages in a child/young person's life to support their social and emotional development
- Help children/young people to understand their own hearing loss
- Explore strategies to promote mental wellbeing and independence

Peripatetic Higher level Teaching Assistants and Specialist Teaching Assistants:

- Support the work of the Teachers of the Deaf by providing additional language input to identified children/young people

- Support access to the curriculum by adapting material for visually impaired children/young people and may provide support in learning Braille

Habilitation Specialist can:

- Assess pupils' abilities and identify any current training needs
- Devise individualised training programmes suitable for the pupil's age and ability
- Advise and train school/setting staff to implement programmes
- Prepare pupils for a new setting
- Teach specific routes
- Teach pre-cane and cane skills
- Prepare students for work experience placements
- Provide advice and support in school to promote independent daily living skills

Touch Typing Tutor will:

- Support visually impaired children/young people to develop the skills required to be able to touch type.



Specialist Equipment

We support and monitor a child/young person's optimum use of all hearing technology provided by audiology clinics. When appropriate, we provide auxiliary equipment such as radio aids, deliver training in their use and maintain them.

Provision and upkeep of canes

We will provide the first cane for a child or young person when the need has been identified through an assessment by the Habilitation Specialist. Following this, parents will be required to replace and maintain the cane.

Environmental assessments

We are happy to offer environmental assessments to schools and settings for a child/young person with a profound, severe or moderate visual impairment (0.6 logMAR or worse) or hearing loss. Recommendations for adaptation are made in conjunction with a member of staff preferably a member of the school/setting's site team.

How to contact us:

Sensory Support Team 0-25

Babbage House,
Box BH1101
Castle Park
Castle Hill
Cambridge
CB3 0AT

Tel: 01223 728310 or
01480 373434

Email:

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