North Cheshire and Mersey
NHS Foundation Trust

Your child's hearing test appointment

Children's Audiology: Halton, St Helens and Knowsley

Information for parents and carers of children who will be visiting the audiology department

• Home • Community • Hospital

Caring for you

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What you need to know before the appointment

A health professional has asked us to test your child's hearing.

We will offer you an appointment at a clinic near you.

Your child should attend with a parent, guardian or a trusted adult.

Please do not bring other children to the appointment if possible. This will help your child focus on the hearing tests.

Do the tests hurt?

No, the tests do not hurt.

There are different ways to test hearing. We will choose the most suitable tests for your child.

We may not finish all the tests at this visit. If this happens, we will book another appointment.

What happens at the appointment?

Your child will see a hearing specialist called an audiologist.

The appointment may take between 30 to 45 minutes.

When you arrive:

- tell the receptionist that you are here
- wait in the waiting area until we call your child

We will:

- ask you about your child's hearing and health
- explain the hearing tests
- carry out the hearing tests



Hearing tests we may use

Looking for sounds (visual reinforcement audiometry)



We will teach your child to turn when they hear a sound.

When they turn, they will see a picture or toy as a reward.

This tells us how well your child hears with both ears working together.

We may also use headphones or small earphones to check each ear on its own.

Listening game using speakers (performance test)



We will teach your child a listening game.

They will do a simple task each time they hear a sound.

For example, they may put a hoop on a post.

This tells us how well your child hears with both ears working together.

Listening game using headphones (play audiometry)

We will teach your child a listening game.

They will listen to sounds through headphones or small earphones.

They will do a simple task each time they hear a sound.

This tells us how well your child hears in each ear on its own.

For example, they may put pegs in a board.





Button-press hearing test (pure tone audiometry)

This test is for older children.

Your child will wear headphones or small earphones.

They will press a button each time they hear a sound.

This tells us how well your child hears in each ear on its own.

Checking the ears

We will look inside your child's ears to check that they look healthy.

We may also check how well the eardrum and middle ear are working.

These checks are quick and do not hurt but may feel strange.

We may do these checks at the end of the appointment. Your child may feel more relaxed then.





What happens next?

At the end of the appointment, we will:

- explain the results
- discuss any next steps with you
- send the results to you
- send the results to the healthcare staff involved in your child's care

If you have any questions before the appointment, please contact us:

Email: bchft.childrensaudiology@nhs.net

Phone: 01744 624 933