

## A message from the Sensory Inclusion Service about

### Deaf Awareness Week: 5<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Did you know that there are over 45,000 deaf children in the UK? Hearing loss can be in one or both ears and can range from mild to profound. There are lots of different types of hearing devices, from conventional hearing aids to cochlear implants/processors to support children with hearing loss.

Why not take this opportunity to explore the Sensory Inclusion Service's Top Tips for Deaf Awareness Week:

#### **Deaf awareness Top Tips:**

- Make sure you are inclusive – if a deaf child hasn't heard what you have said, don't say it doesn't matter, make sure you take the time to repeat clearly what has been said so that they can join in with the conversation.
- Talk at normal speed with normal lip-patterns. Did you know that lots of people with hearing loss rely on lip-reading to support their listening? Make sure that when you are talking, the person with a hearing loss can see your face clearly.
- Try not to stand in front of a light source, like a window, as this can obscure your face and mean that the deaf person cannot read your facial expressions or lip-read effectively.
- Try not to make unnecessary noise as this can be very distracting for someone who wears hearing aids. Think, are you tapping a pen? Shuffling in your chair? Talking when you shouldn't be? This can all make it harder for the deaf person to hear.

#### **Suggested Activities for the week:**

- Why not have a bake sale to raise money during the week for the local Shropshire Deaf Children's Society?
- Why not find a story book that includes a deaf character for a literacy focus, or research famous deaf people.
- Why not try a lip-reading challenge.
- Perhaps you could learn to finger spell the alphabet.

Needs some inspiration - there are more ideas on the National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS) website here:

[Deaf awareness games and activities | National Deaf Children's Society](#)