

## Working with a Hearing Impaired Child in an Early Years Setting Top Tips

### The Learning Environment

- Avoid adding more background noise (music, fans etc.) where possible
- Be aware of outside noise and close doors/windows when necessary
- Make sure the room is light but that the child is not looking into the light when you talk to them
- Use repetition and routine to support understanding
- Display visual prompts and cues

### Group Work

- Sit the child centrally and at the front
- Minimise moving round while talking
- Repeat and rephrase important points
- Repeat comments made by peers
- Use visual cues and prompts



### One to one work

- Work in a quiet space
- Make sure you have the child's attention and they can see your face when you are talking
- Speak naturally
- Do not cover your mouth
- Use gesture and facial expression
- Give extra time to respond
- Check understanding

### Staying Safe

- Be aware that the child may not hear the fire alarm
- It is more difficult to hear during outside activities, instructions need to be repeated near the child

### Equipment

- Hearing aids should be worn at all times
- Spare batteries should be kept at nursery