



# EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH IMPAIRED HEARING

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA





## **SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH IMPAIRED HEARING**

**Assessment Facilities**

**Pre-school Parent Guidance and Counselling**

**Early Childhood Programmes**

**School Facilities**

**Vocational Assessment and Further Education Support**

**Boarding Facilities**

**School Bus Service**

**Short-stay Flat and Assistance with Travel Costs**

The Education Department of Western Australia aims to provide a comprehensive educational service for children with impaired hearing from the age at which deafness is ascertained into the early post-school years.

**Hearing Assessment Centre, Johnston Street, Peppermint Grove 6011**  
**Telephone: (09) 384 9749**





*Assessment of hearing*

### **Assessment Facilities**

Assessment of the hearing-impaired child is important to find out as much as possible about the child's hearing loss and strengths and weaknesses as a learner. Thus, facilities are provided at the Hearing Assessment Centre for educational, audiological and psychological assessment.



*Assessment of abilities*

### **Pre-school Parent Guidance and Counselling**

A parent guidance and counselling service for the parents of children with impaired hearing is provided at the Hearing Assessment Centre from the age at which the deafness in the child is ascertained. Regular meetings between the parent-guidance teacher of the deaf and the parent(s) are arranged either at home or at the Centre. Group meetings for parents are arranged periodically at the Centre. Home-training amplifiers are lent where appropriate. Both oral and total communication programmes are available.



### Early Childhood Programmes

A special play group, kindergarten and pre-primary programme is provided at the Hearing Assessment Centre, commencing from the child's second birthday and continuing until the child is ready for Year 1 of school. In most cases, once the child is old enough, arrangements are made for attendance at special sessions at the Hearing Assessment Centre and ordinary local kindergartens or pre-primary centres for other sessions. In this way, specialized training is kept in balance with integration with ordinary local children. An early childhood programme using the 'total communication' method is provided at the Mosman Park School for the Deaf.



*Conversational experience*

### School Facilities

#### ***Placement in Regular Classes***

A full range of educational facilities for deaf and hearing-impaired students is provided. Many children attend ordinary local schools and may be helped by visiting teachers of the deaf who go to the schools. An advisory and visiting teacher service is provided for children with impaired hearing attending schools in country districts.

*Group-learning activities*





*Visiting teacher service*

### **Special Schools and Classes**

For those who require the full range of special educational facilities, schools and classes for deaf and hearing-impaired children are provided.

In appropriate cases, hearing-impaired students are provided with a specialized programme at the primary level at the Cottesloe School for Hearing-impaired Students. At the secondary level, specialized classes at senior high schools allow integrated contact with ordinary students. Class sizes are kept low, with not more than eight students per teacher.

Profoundly deaf students are provided with oral education at the primary level, either in special classes in ordinary schools or at the Cottesloe School for Hearing-impaired Students. Those needing 'total communication' attend the Mosman Park School for the Deaf.

Both methods are provided for at the secondary level by special classes in senior high schools.

*Lesson on group-hearing aid*







*Vocational assessment*

For deaf and hearing-impaired children attending schools catering for intellectual and physical handicaps, a visiting teacher-of-the-deaf service is provided.

The effectiveness of educational programmes is kept under constant review, so that school and class facilities can be upgraded or altered to most effectively meet the needs of the students.

### **Vocational Assessment and Further Education Support**

For students who require it, a vocational assessment and counselling facility is provided by the Hearing Assessment Centre in liaison with the schools and the



*School for hearing impaired*

*Total communication in use*





Commonwealth Employment Service. Support for young people in employment or in technical and further education is also available. Evening classes are run on a weekly basis at the Hearing Assessment Centre.

### Boarding Facilities

Separate boarding hostels in the metropolitan area are provided by the Board of Management of the W.A. School for Deaf Children (Inc.) for (a), the hearing-impaired (oral); and for (b), deaf children using finger spelling and signing.

Charges for boarding are effectively covered by Commonwealth and State grants. Return fares from home to hostel by air, where appropriate, are provided by the Government.

### School Bus Service

A special service operates, involving a fleet of buses bringing children to the special schools and classes for the deaf and hearing-impaired each school day and returning them home as necessary. This service is free.

### Short-stay Flat and Assistance with Travel Costs

If a country parent brings a child for assessment and guidance to the Hearing Assessment Centre, arrangements can be made for parent and child to stay at the parent flat provided by the Board of Management of the W.A. School for Deaf Children (Inc.). Board and lodging for the assessment period can be provided without charge in appropriate cases. Assistance with the costs of air or surface travel is also provided in such cases through the Education Department.



*At technical college*

The services mentioned above are arranged and provided through

**THE CO-ORDINATOR OF EDUCATION OF  
CHILDREN WITH IMPAIRED HEARING,  
HEARING ASSESSMENT CENTRE,  
JOHNSTON STREET,  
PEPPERMINT GROVE 6011  
(Telephone: (09) 384 9749)**

Parents are welcome at the Centre and are free to contact us at any time.