



St Ann's Transition Clinic: 15-18 years of age

Information factsheet

What is the Transition Clinic?

- Now that you are getting closer to being an adult, we would like to begin the process of moving you, as smoothly as possible, from the Paediatric Audiology Service to the Adult Audiology Service.
- This process will take place over three appointments, over three years, starting from when you are 13-14 years of age and with your last appointment being when you turn 18 years of age.
- If you live in Haringey you will continue to be seen by our Adult Service within the department; however, if you live in Enfield, you will be referred to Royal Free Adult Audiology Services at Chase Farm Hospital, Enfield.
- Regardless of whether you stay with our service, or are referred to another hospital, we want to make sure that you know about:
 - your hearing loss and hearing aid service
 - aware of the differences that exist between paediatric and adult services
 - how you can get extra help from other services and organisations.

What happens at transition appointments?

At each appointment the Audiologist will:

- discuss any difficulties you may be experiencing either with your hearing aids or hearing.
- retest your hearing and help you understand your hearing levels.
- check your hearing aids and show you how to look after the hearing aids, for example changing the tube in your mould.
- explain the transition process and what to expect in the future.
- provide you with information about equipment that may be used with your hearing aids.
- provide you with information about support from local services or if you are planning on moving away for college/university, as you start to reach 18 years of age.

We want to make sure that you understand your hearing loss and can explain it. This is because, whether you are moving onto further education or going into the workplace, you need to be able to explain the type of support you will need for your hearing loss.



Differences between Paediatric and Adult Audiology Services

	Paediatric Audiology	Adult Audiology
Service Aim	We work to meet your needs and your family's needs.	Working to meet your needs.
Review hearing tests	These would have been done on a yearly basis, with appointments being sent automatically.	<p>Haringey - Appointments need to be requested if you feel there has been a change in your hearing levels.</p> <p>Enfield – Patients need to be re-referred every three years. This needs to be requested from your GP.</p>
Types of tests	Otoscopy (ear examination) Tympanometry (middle ear test) Pure Tone Audiogram (PTA) (hearing sensitivity test) Real Ear Measurements, which ensure the hearing aid is set appropriately for your hearing loss Aided Speech testing (ear test using speech)	Otoscopy Tympanometry Pure Tone Audiogram (PTA) Real Ear Measurements
Wax removal	Removed by consultant within the department.	May need to see GP / Practice Nurse / ENT / removed privately.
Repairs	<p>These tend to be arranged by parents / guardians and are booked for 30 minutes.</p> <p>Some parents / guardians will drop off / collect hearing aids.</p>	<p>Haringey – arranged by you. This is a 15-minute booked appointment in the repair clinic at St Ann's Hospital. Hearing aids can be dropped off at reception for repair and then collected once ready.</p> <p>Enfield – arranged by you. This is a 30-minute appointment booked in advance at either Chase Farm Hospital or Barnet Hospital. Hearing aids can be dropped off at reception for repair and then collected within 2-3 days.</p>
Appointment reports	We write a report after every appointment. This is sent to parents/guardians, GP, and Teacher of Deaf (TOD) if applicable.	An initial report may be sent to your GP, but generally reports are not written following an appointment with the audiologist. However, you can request a copy of your audiogram.



Missed appointments - if you do not attend	We will rebook your appointment and write a report to parents/guardians, GP, and Teacher of Deaf (TOD) if applicable.	Your appointment may not necessarily be rebooked and in some instances, you may be discharged, and a new referral will be required from your GP.
Sharing of Information	Information about your medical history and appointment is shared with your parents/guardians during the appointment and by reports sent to them.	Information about your medical history and appointment is only shared with you unless you give consent for this to be shared with your parents/guardians.
Types of hearing aids	We fit hearing aids which are from the paediatric range - not all of these are available to adults.	Haringey – we will try and keep you on the same model of hearing aid. Enfield – different Audiology services provide different hearing aids, and they may not be able to support your current hearing aids. If this is the case, they will change your hearing aids so that they can support them in the future, but this will be discussed with you.
Lost or damaged aids	We replace damaged and lost hearing aids without charge.	Haringey – you will be charged £70 per hearing aid that is lost. Enfield – no charge for 1 st instance of lost aids, and £100 per hearing aid thereafter.

Accessing Audiology Services away from home

- If you are moving away, you are likely to want to change your GP to one in your new local area. Ask your new GP to refer you to the local Adult Audiology department.

Accessing help whilst at University or College

- If you are going on to further education at University or College, we would advise you contact their Student's Support Services.
- They will be able to advise you about the type of support you can get and how to access it.
- If you are attending university, you can apply for a Disabled Students Allowances (DSAs) through Student Finances England.
- It is important to remember that different universities and colleges will provide different amounts of support and we advise you contact the Disability or Learning Support officer before starting your course.



Please see www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas for further details about eligibility and how to apply.

Accessing help whilst at work

- The Access to Work scheme is government funded and provides support to people with additional needs.
- This can include help with the cost of equipment that you might need in the workplace.
- You will need to register for this. More information can be found at www.gov.uk/access-to-work, or you can speak to the Disability Employment Adviser at your local Job Centre Plus.

What to do if you are unhappy with Adult Services

- In the first instance we would advise you contact the Adult Service and discuss your concerns. If they are unable to help you, you should contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS). They will be able to provide you with assistance and advice.

Links for useful information and advice

National Deaf Childrens Society



Deaf Plus



Royal National Institute for Deaf People



Connevans (specialist equipment)



Hearing Link**Access to Work****Disability Students Allowance****Patient advice and liaison service (PALS)**

If you have a compliment, complaint or concern please contact our PALS team on 020 7288 5551 or whh-tr.PALS@nhs.net

If you need a large print, audio or translated copy of this leaflet please email whh-tr.patient-information@nhs.net. We will try our best to meet your needs.

Twitter.com/WhitHealth
Facebook.com/WhittingtonHealth

Whittington Health NHS Trust
Magdala Avenue
London
N19 5NF
Phone: 020 7272 3070
www.whittington.nhs.uk

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