



Free social care advisory service

For professionals working with children and young people with a hearing loss

Having a hearing loss of any level can place a child at a significant disadvantage and can also pose a significant risk to their emotional, social and intellectual development and overall wellbeing.

The National Deaf Children's Society can provide free specialist advice to a range of professionals on the social care needs of deaf children and young people.

Need help?

Call 0121 234 9825
or email: socialcare@ndcs.org.uk to speak to our team.

We'll help you with factors that should be considered in any social care assessment of children with a hearing loss or on how support should be provided, including:

- what factors related to hearing loss need to be considered when undertaking an assessment of the child and when deciding whether a child in need assessment is required or a child protection response
- what factors related to the child's hearing loss should be considered when deciding what should be included in support plans, such as a child in need plan, looked-after care plan, education support plans, etc.

- what to consider if a deaf child is missing key developmental milestones
- access to Disability Living Allowance and Personal Independence Payments
- how to involve and communicate with a deaf child in any decisions made about them
- what information and support foster carers or adoptive parents might require before a deaf child can be placed with them
- other resources that may be useful.

Go to www.ndcs.org.uk/socialcareadvice for more information about the social care advisory line.



We're here for all staff who support deaf children, including:

- early support and intervention
- assessment and intake
- child protection/public protection units
- children's disability teams
- transitions teams
- education sensory support teams
- fostering and adoption
- looked after teams and leaving care
- youth offending services
- policy and planning services
- Safeguarding partners

Small print

Please note that this service is aimed at professionals in local authorities where there is no access to advice from a specialist social worker/social work team for deaf children. Whilst we can provide advice, this service should not be seen as a substitute for a specialist assessment from a specialist social worker for deaf children, where needed.