



## SFL: Hearing Support Service

### TIPS FOR SCHOOLS

Pupils have been out of school for over 12 weeks. With schools due to reopen soon, here's a brief reminder of how best to support their HI needs; plus additional COVID19 related advice:

#### E-LEARNING/ DISTANCE LEARNING:



- \*Closed captions should be used with caution - these are not always 100% accurate and can be very misleading when inaccurate
- Clips without CC or subtitles ideally need a transcript
- It's much harder for pupils with HI to listen through devices than to a live speaker
- Headphones should be used with caution. Pupils with an unilateral hearing loss should adjust volume of the earphones individually to suit each ear

#### WHILST AT HOME:



- \*Many pupils would not have worn their hearing aids at all / worn them very little.
- Pupils would have spent the majority of their time around family only, to listen to new voices after all this time will take some getting used to
- Radio aid users would not have had access to these devices at home
- \*Putting hearing aids on for the first time in a while will make them feel louder and uncomfortable

#### HEARING AIDS AND EQUIPMENT:



- \*Hearing aids that have not been worn for some time may need a little attention
- Pupils wearing their hearing aids for the first time since lockdown will need some adjustment time, especially in a classroom environment
- \*Radio aids may not have been charged and will require an overnight, full charge before use

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO AT SCHOOL:



- \*Check the pupil's hearing aid; ask our Audiological Technician for advice if it isn't working or if the pupil reports an issue with their hearing equipment
- Get in touch with the pupils Teacher of the Deaf for support and advice
- \*Remind yourself of their Hearing Profile, be sure to read the 'How Best to Support me' sections

#### SOME ADDITIONAL CONCERNS/ WORRIES:



- The continued talk of masks being worn at school is worrying many families of pupils with HI.
- Lip-reading, facial expressions and body language is essential for full understanding during a conversation, please bare this in mind

