

# WHAT IS HEARING LOSS?

Hearing loss is a condition in which an individual has reduced ability to hear sounds, affecting communication, learning, and social interaction.

Early detection and intervention are crucial for optimal speech and language development

Hearing loss in children can be present at birth (congenital) or develop later in childhood (acquired). Congenital hearing loss can be hereditary (genetic) or caused by infections during pregnancy, including infection with cytomegalovirus or rubella. Hearing loss is more common in babies who are in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). Hearing loss can be an isolated condition or a feature of a syndrome that causes additional symptoms.

(American Speech and Hearing Association, ASHA)



# EMPOWERING MINDS, SHAPING FUTURES

## Our Services Include:

- Hearing Screening & Diagnostic Audiology
- Speech & Language Assessment
- Hearing Aid Trial & Fitting
- Cochlear Implant Counselling & Referral
- Auditory Verbal Therapy (AVT)
- Parent & Caregiver Counselling

## MORE INFORMATION:

### Department of Speech-Language Pathology

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# UNDERSTANDING HEARING LOSS IN CHILDREN





**BUILDING A BETTER  
FUTURE THROUGH  
EARLY INTERVENTION**

**▶ Red Flags in  
Infants**

- No startle response to loud sound.
- Does not turn towards sound
- Delayed or absent babbling
- No response when name is called
- Delayed speech and language development
- Inconsistent response to environmental sounds

**▶ Red Flags in Older  
Children**

1

Frequently asks for repetition

2

Difficulty understanding speech in noise

3

Unclear or slurred speech

4

Avoids social interaction or conversations

**! WHEN TO SEEK HELP**

If any red flag is noticed

If speech development is delayed

After frequent ear infections

Following illness, injury, or noise exposure

**“Early identification leads to better communication outcomes”**