

## **CUMBRIA CHILDREN'S SERVICE**

### **SEND Teaching Support Team : Deaf / Hearing Impaired**

SEND Teaching Support Team provides a service supporting inclusion and raising the educational attainments and achievements of pupils with special or additional educational needs – in this case deaf children

In pursuit of this overall purpose, the Specialist Service for Deaf Children seeks to help deaf\* pupils in Cumbria to become active and reflective learners, developing into literate, independent, responsible and caring adults.

Our approach is underpinned by the belief that each deaf pupil should leave school with:

- effective communication skills including appropriately high levels of literacy and spoken English and/or sign;
- the ability to participate fully as a member of their family, peer group, local community and of society at large;
- a positive view of their own identity and value;
- the ability to take independent responsibility for their own lives; and
- the capacity to exercise the same range of choices as their hearing peers in relation to life and work.

#### **Criteria for Involvement**

The following groups of children may require the involvement of a Specialist Advisory Teacher: Deaf/ Hearing Impaired to minimise as far as possible, the effects of their hearing loss on their general development and educational attainment.

- Hearing aids wearers from diagnosis of their hearing loss until they leave school- as appropriate.
- Children with persistent moderate (average over 40 dB) conductive losses, whose behaviour or progress in school is causing concern.
- Children with a hearing loss in association with a recognised syndrome, disability or learning difficulty.
- Children with mild (30-40dB) sensori-neural or mixed losses.
- Children with a unilateral hearing loss where the loss averages over 50 DB.

SEND TST recognises the needs of young people at local colleges and will provide specialist support as required by the College where this is both purchased by the college and where SEND specialist advisory teachers D/HI are available.

\* The term 'deaf' is used to refer to all degrees of hearing impairment whether mild, moderate, severe or profound.