

Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust

Kings Court 2
Charles Hastings Drive
Worcester
WR5 1JR
01905 520032

Dear Parent/Carer,

HEARING SCREENING FOR RECEPTION AGE CHILDREN

The School Health Nursing Service offers a routine hearing test to every child in Reception. The main reason for screening children's hearing at this age is to ensure that all children have satisfactory hearing for learning in school. Untreated hearing problems can cause difficulties with speech, learning and behaviour.

The Health Care Support Workers working within the School Health Nursing Team will soon be attending your child's school to test your child's hearing. For this to be recorded accurately on your child's records, we will ask school to provide your child's full name, address and date of birth*.

Worcestershire School Health Nursing Service is now using a digital system known as School Screener to perform the hearing tests and issue the results. Please register for a School Screener Parent Portal Account using the link below:

<http://qlink.uk/WORCh177/116822>

The School Screener Parent Portal can only be accessed by the web browsers, Google Chrome or Edge.

Once you have registered your child, an account will be created. If your child is already under the care of a specialist or you do not wish your child to be tested, you can 'opt-out' via the Parent Portal. If you do not have internet access to register an account on the Parent Portal, please let us know.

Your child will be given clear instructions which will involve wearing a pair of child-sized headphones. An audiometer is plugged into a laptop to manage the sounds and an on-screen game is played. Your child will then identify the sounds they hear. If your child does not pass the hearing test, they will be offered a second test approx. 12 weeks later and referred onto Acute Audiology at the hospital for further assessment if necessary.

On completion of the hearing test, you will be sent a text message to inform you the results are available on the Parent Portal. The school may also be informed of the results of your child's hearing test.

Chairman: Mark Yates
Chief Executive: Sarah Dugan

Working Together for Outstanding Care

If you would like any further information about the screening or the School Health Nursing Service in general, please visit our website <https://www.startingwellworcs.nhs.uk/> or call us on 01905 520032.

Yours sincerely,
Worcestershire School Health Nursing Team

*Under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018, we have a legal duty to protect any information we collect from you and your child's school. Please be assured that all personal confidential information will be kept secure and confidential at all times and will only be used by staff who have a lawful reason to do so. For details on how we use your information please visit our website: www.hacw.nhs.uk/data-protection

Do you have a communication or information support need? Please contact the team who sent this letter so that those needs can be recorded and responded to. For more information visit www.startingwellworcs.nhs.uk