



Bournville School Hearing Impaired Resource Base

Bournville School H.I.R.B is a resource base provision for hearing impaired and Deaf secondary aged pupils and is situated in the south area of Birmingham. Our resource base primarily equipped to meet the needs of pupils with an Educational, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) that have a moderate to profound hearing loss.

Specialist Staff

The Resource Base is staffed by two qualified and experienced Teachers of the Deaf (TODs) and specialist Teaching Assistants. Support is tailored to meet individual pupil needs but may include

- In class support
- Individual or small group pre and post tutoring
- Individual or small group speech and language intervention
- Development of pupils' listening skills.
- Access to language and reading groups
- Management of access arrangements for tests and exams

Audiology

The provision benefits from regular visits from an Educational Audiologist (from Access to Education) and a fast response from audiological technicians who support with radio equipment and other technologies to help hearing impaired and Deaf students to maximise their residual hearing. We maintain close links with all of Birmingham City's clinics and liaise with clinicians to support our pupils' audiological management. We have the expectation that students will develop independence in managing their own post aural and cochlear devices and they are encouraged in this at every opportunity to enable them to value their residual hearing and prepare for life after school. Pupils' equipment is checked thoroughly every morning and staff are skilled to carry out basic repairs on hearing aids.

Mainstream

HIRB students are educated within the mainstream for the majority of the time. Support is planned to meet individual children's needs in each subject, with a higher level of support offered in the core subjects of English, Maths and Science.

All mainstream school staff are trained in Deaf Awareness and have the opportunity to liaise with the TODs and specialised Teaching Assistants through more formal training or daily informal contact.

External agencies

Pupils benefit from regular visits from specialist Speech and Language Therapists (SALT) trained and experienced in working with hearing impaired and Deaf students. The SALT work to assess pupils' needs and will plan a programme of pupils' work to meet individual needs where appropriate. The staff within the HIRB follow the plan and work to help the student meet agreed speech and language targets.

Transition

Visitors and prospective students are always welcomed at Bournville School. Before joining our base it is advisable to book a visit to look around the whole school and spend some time with our staff. This will give you and your child the opportunity to see what we have to offer and to get a feel of the school. Your child may get the opportunity to meet some current students and talk to them about their experiences of Bournville School. A Teacher of the Deaf will liaise with your child's current provision and visit your child there to ensure good transfer of information and allow your child to get to know the TOD. New pupils will have the opportunity to visit the Resource Base and spend a morning here. This will take place a week before the whole school induction day. Additional transition activities may be planned depending on need.

Home/School Links

The HIRB staff can always be contacted via telephone, email or through a note in the student diary. We encourage and welcome communication between home and school to build consistency for the student and to resolve any issues that may impact on the student's education.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Pupils are encouraged to take an active part in mainstream life and participate in school trips and activities. Additional activities are also planned throughout the school year to enable our students with hearing impairments to meet other young people with similar needs and to develop friendships and a support network. During these visits they are likely to meet and interact with Deaf role models. This is included to raise the students' aspirations and show them what can be achieved.