

Hearing Impaired Resource Base at Bournville School

Teacher of the Deaf (TOD)

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Everyone. Every lesson. Every day.

Overview

Bournville School Hearing Impaired Resource (H.I.R.B) is a resource base provision for deaf secondary aged pupils and is situated in the south area of Birmingham. Our resource is for pupils with an Educational, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) that have moderate to profound deafness as their primary need.

The Resource Base specifically caters to the needs of deaf children as an integral and specialist part of a mainstream school. We provide support from a range of specialist staff that ensure the needs of the deaf pupils are fully met within the daily life of the school.

The Resource Base team support individual students in mainstream lessons, clarifying and explaining any new language. We complete feedback sheets every lesson, enabling us to check on any reinforcement that may be required. We use a philosophy of Total Communication policy, which embraces lip-reading, speaking, use of amplified residual hearing, sign support systems,

reading, writing, notetaking, Sign Supported English (SSE) and British Sign Language (BSL).

School Routine

Our students come to the Resource Base each morning, before the start of school, to check that their hearing aids, cochlear implants and radio aid systems are working properly. We encourage as much pupil responsibility for audiology equipment as possible.

Students then attend their tutor registration session with their hearing peers, before either going to mainstream lessons or being withdrawn for specialist teaching in the Resource Base. This is dependent on individual needs.

One to one tutorials are available for students before tutor registration time in the mornings and at the end of the school day. This is to allow for the reinforcement of the curriculum, as well as the development of vocabulary and communication skills.

Resource Base Lessons

Students are educated within the mainstream for the majority of the time. Teaching within the base covers a broad spectrum of the curriculum at an appropriate level, with a particular focus on language development.

Direct teaching within the base involves:

- Individual or small group pre and post tutoring
- Subject specialist vocabulary input
- Individual Education Plan Interventions
- Specialist Language Interventions (BSL and English)

Student Testimonies

“I like when the resource base staff support me in lessons and tutorials in sign language.”

“I feel like I can go to staff when I need someone to talk to.”

“I enjoy working in the resource base because it’s peaceful, quiet and I learn better.”

“The base is a supportive place where I get taught writing, language and reading.”

“It’s not just about tutorials...people listen to you, and it feels safe there.”