

# Deaf Awareness



# What is a Teacher of the Deaf?

- Existing qualified teacher.
- Secondary specialist.
- Primary specialist.
- Undertakes further training through University to achieve a Postgraduate Qualification in Deaf teaching.
- As a qualified Teacher of the Deaf (ToD) we can now support/teach hearing impaired/deaf - babies, children and pupils in the home, nursery, mainstream or specialised schools.

# Who are the Hearing Impaired team in Grange Academy?

- Kate Clannachan – Principal Teacher (Art & Design specialist).
- Lauren Nicholls – Biology specialist.
- Fiona Grant – Primary specialist.
- Elaine Smith – Primary specialist.
- Julie Walker – Maths specialist.
- Laura Tait – BSL Tutor

# Levels/Types of hearing loss.

- Profoundly deaf. British sign language (BSL) is first language.
- Severe, moderate, mild hearing loss can be in one (unilateral) or both ears (bilateral) and can be boosted with hearing aids or cochlear implants (C.I).  
*The amount and quality of hearing achieved will depend on the type of hearing aids that are used/worn, or by the success of the rehabilitation level achieved after implantation of C.I's.*
- Grange Academy has 9 deaf pupils at present with a variety of these levels.
- 1 pupils use BSL as their 1<sup>st</sup> language.
- 3 pupils use a combination of oral and sign for support.
- 5 pupils are oral.

# Equipment to help H.I pupils

- Sound field – Every subject area in the school has a room/s with fixed sound field. The mics must be kept charged over night for optimum use.
- Roger pen – Pupils with cochlear implants can use a Roger pen which further boosts hearing levels.



- FM system – similar to the Roger pen but not as sophisticated.

# What is involved in classroom support for a deaf pupil from a ToD?

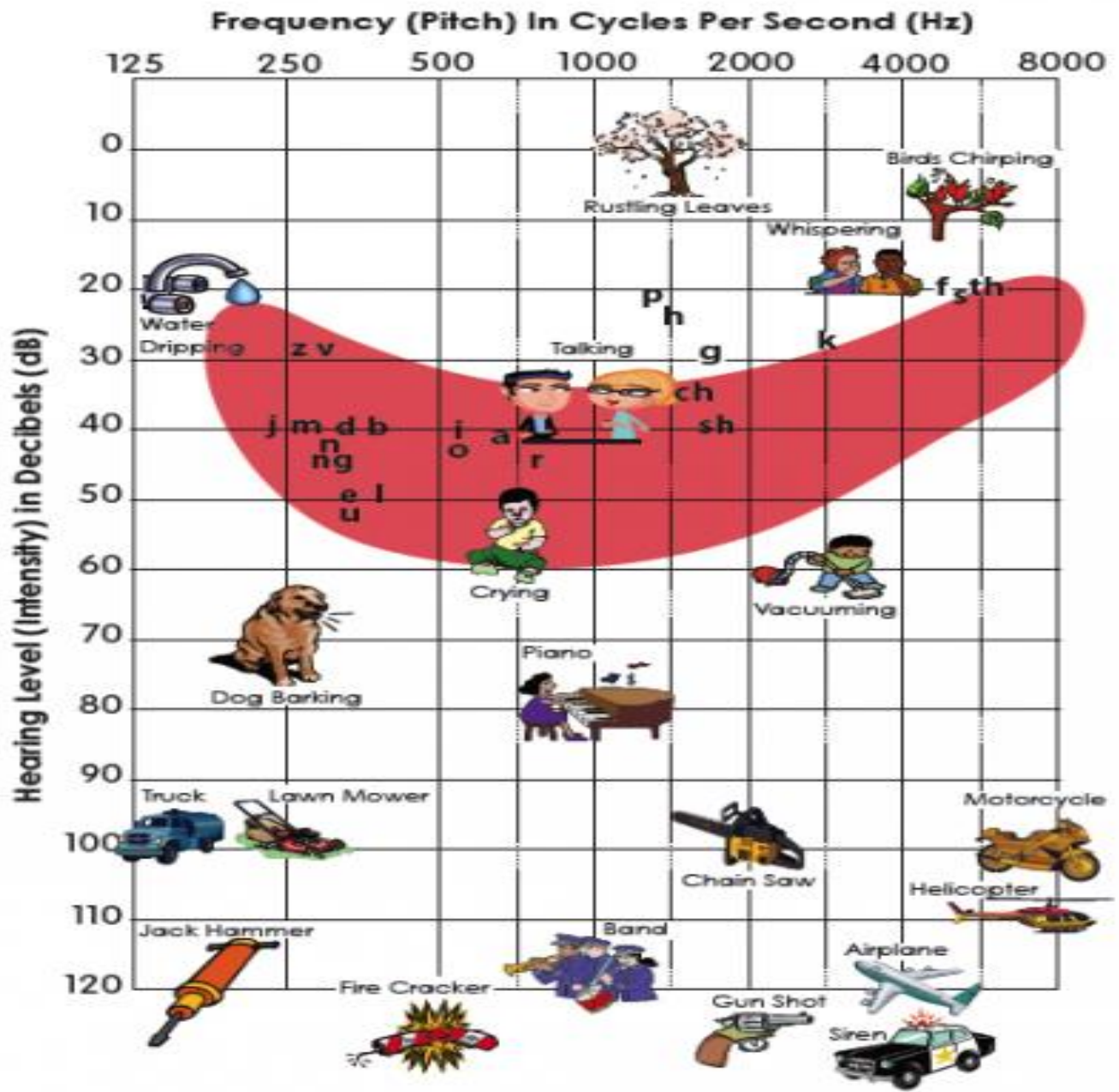
- Support involves a ToD coming into your classroom/lesson.
- Support is prioritised by pupil need.
- Support can be varied by time.
- Support can be varied by ToD.
- Support can be varied by pupil numbers.
- Support can be take the role of dual teaching.
- The ToD can often offer the classroom teacher support!



# Sound treatment for classrooms.

(Pauline Hughes. BATOD)

- Reduce reverberation - less hard surfaces, rooms fitted with carpets, blinds or curtains.
- Reduce internal noise.
- Reduce external noise.
- Sound field – fixed wall speakers enabling equal sound around the room.
- Head teachers and LEAs seek to achieve the standards for all learning environments for deaf pupils during new builds and major refurbishment.





# Inclusion within Grange Academy (past & present).

- Sound field in 54 subject classrooms.
- SQA Lip reading course.
- BSL level 1 & 2 tuition.
- Lunchtime signing classes for pupils and staff.
- Annual outings with H.I Department.
- H.I pupils are/have been prefects and part of the pupil council.
- Grange signing choir.
- H.I have been actively involved in school shows.

# Strategies for the classroom teacher.

<http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk>

- Have your sound field mic charged and ready to use.
- Close doors and windows where possible to reduce/eliminate background noise to a minimum.
- Gain pupil attention before important information is given and slow down your speech rate.
- Try to ensure you are facing the deaf pupil/s or ensure they can see you clearly when you are addressing the class. Try not to move about too much.
- Repeat instructions if they are lengthy.
- Allow deaf children more time to think and talk/sign. Do not always expect an immediate answer.
- Repeat contributions from other children in class discussions.
- Use visual aids whenever possible e.g. books, objects, photographs, power points, subtitled DVDs. Remember to the turn light back on before you talk.
- Do not talk and write at the same time.
- Do not make a child concentrate on lip-reading for long periods without a break.
- Do not overload a child with too many oral instructions.
- Do not assume that a child has certain knowledge. Check what they know first.
- Remember deaf children cannot pick up auditory information in the same way that hearing children can, e.g. conversations around them .

# How can you help?



- If you are showing any kind of footage in the classroom or purchasing DVDs in your department, please try to ensure wherever possible that they have subtitles.
- Please feel free to contact the H.I Department if you have any forthcoming work which you feel may be challenging.
- Talk to us if you have any questions/worries regarding our pupils in the delivery of;  
lessons/homework/assessments/ exams/study or inclusion in you classroom.
- Where possible put classwork/power points on staff share and we can use in pre-post tutoring to reinforce your lesson in department time.