

# Assistive Listening Devices

## Information for parents

### What is an Assistive Listening device (ALD)?

An ALD can be known by other names including FM system and radio aids. Its job is to help the child/young person to listen in noise, over a distance and in reverberant environments. When used effectively it can potentially enhance the deaf person's listening experience.

The system consists of a **transmitter** worn by the teacher/parent and **receivers** worn by the child/young person. There are different types of receivers depending on the hearing devices worn.

### What do Hertfordshire provide?

We loan receivers to fit the child's hearing device and a range of transmitters. Hearing aids, speech processors and bone conduction hearing devices are provided by Health.

For example:



Roger Clip-on, Roger Inspiro, Roger Touchscreen, Roger Pen, Cochlear Minimic 2+, Oticon Edu Mic and Phonak Partner Mic (not pictured)

### Will I have to pay?

No.

### Will my child have receivers that colour match their hearing device?

No. We provide silver Roger X receivers (see picture); these are quite discreet and can be reallocated when a child/young person finishes using them. Cochlear implant receivers sometimes do match. Many of the newer hearing aids/Speech Processors have the receivers activated inside the device and are therefore not visible.



**What system will my child have?**

Different factors are taken into consideration as to what type of transmitter is issued to a child/young person, your child may be given any of the above.

**What happens if it breaks?**

We understand that accidents happen, children are children. We can send the part for repair; we may have a spare available for use while the part is being repaired however this is not always possible.

**What happens if I lose a piece?**

We understand that losses do occur, we will try to replace items, but this may take some time, we do not hold a stock of receivers due to their high cost. If multiple losses occur, we will have to consider whether this is right for your child.

**What happens if the hearing aid breaks?**

Please inform the audiology department that your child uses and ALD and has the receiver activated internally.

**How do you qualify for an ALD?**

Every child/young person is a candidate for an ALD. The decision will be informed by classroom observations, listening assessments pupils voice questionnaire in addition to conversations with the family, ToD, school, audiology and SaLT.

**Can we use it at home as well as in school?**

Yes. If it is being used for an afterschool club the parents must show the coach how to use the device.

**If you would like to use other devices/receivers we ask parents to contact the NDCS who may offer their loan to buy scheme.**