



## TOOLS TO SUPPORT STUDENTS WHO ARE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING



### Microsoft Ease of Access Options

- Closed captioning – this is available in all Microsoft applications, including TEAMS
- Google Live Transcribe (converts speech to text)

### iOS Accessibility Features

- Voice over
- Audio descriptions, and spoken content
- Mono audio and balance
- LED alerts
- Subtitles and captions
- RTT ( real-time-text)
- Live Listening tunes out back ground noise made for iPhone hearing aids

### Other options

- Alternate form print materials
- Browser-based captioning ([www.webcaptioner.com](http://www.webcaptioner.com))
- Closed captioning for web-based platforms – [YouTube Playlist](#)
- Auditory equipment
- Personal FM from PRP-AE (Provincial Outreach Program for Auditory Equipment)
- Classroom speaker systems assist with reducing background noise by amplifying the teacher's voice.
- There are a variety of ASL and other apps which may also help. Speak to the team at your child's school

**The school team can help you to determine which of these tools may be right for your child.**

# SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING



## TEACHER OF THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

NLPS has a Teacher of the Deaf / Hard of Hearing (TDHH) who provides direct service to students kindergarten to grade 12 whose educational and social emotional development is significantly impacted by hearing loss. Consultative support may be provided to other students who are impaired by hearing loss.



### Services may include:

- Collaborating with teachers to meet the needs of students who are deaf or hard of hearing
- Optimizing inclusion for deaf and hard of hearing students
- Providing tutorial support
- Assisting students in developing auditory skills
- Teaching appropriate use and care of assistive listening devices
- Providing in-service for school staff, families, and student about deafness and/or hearing loss, and inclusive approaches to learning
- liaising with parents and community agencies
- Supporting and guiding interpreters, transcribers and education assistants working with deaf/hard of hearing students
- Collaborating with school based team to provide accessible materials from provincial resource programs

## SPECIALIST TEACHER SUPPORT

If your child requires support from a specialist teacher, their classroom teacher will submit a referral to the School-Based Team.

Each referral is considered on an individual basis—the amount of support, and resources chosen, will be selected for each learner to best meet their needs.

We begin by exploring universal options (things available to everyone), and/or specific tools in the classroom setting, in order to provide your child with inclusive learning opportunities.

Additional individual or small group support may be provided by a variety of adults in the school: the Specialist Teacher, school-based Inclusion Support Teacher, Classroom Teacher, Education Assistant or Speech-Language Pathologist.

We are always working to build independence for students, so the support and intervention for your child will change over time as they build the stamina and skills needed to be a successful learner.

Sometimes, we will provide specific intervention for a period of time, and then give them a bit of time to practice these skills back in their classroom, before resuming individual interventions.

We will work with you, and the others who support your child outside of school, to develop an individualized approach to meet your child's needs.

**Referrals** for these services are made through your child's classroom teacher to the School-Based Team. The team will require copies of medical and other assessment reports, to determine the support required, and to guide the development of the plan.

## SCHOOL SUPPORT TEAM

The Inclusive Education Team is the group of specialists who collaborate with classroom teachers and families to establish and monitor the interventions, goals and strategies being put in place to help your child be safe and successful at school.

Students who meet Ministry of Education Criteria will be formally designated in Category F: Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and assigned a case manager, who will help to develop an individualized education plan for your child.

**An Inclusion Support Teacher** works with your child's classroom teacher to provide support to your child and co-ordinate your child's IEP.

**Education Assistants** are assigned to learning environments and provide individual support to a variety of students. Some students will receive individualized support, others may have shared support. This is allocated on the basis of the student's individualized needs.

**Additional support** from a Speech Language Pathologist, English Language Learning Teacher, School Psychologist, or Child, Youth & Family Support Worker, may also be recommended.



A conversation with your child's teacher is the best place to begin.