



# The Hearing Impairment Hub for Primary Schools at Middleton Primary School

## What is a Hub?

Peterborough City Council and a number of primary, secondary and special schools are working together to create a network of specialist hubs in schools across the city. These Hubs are developing to become 'centres of expertise' to help improve the support for all children with special educational needs and disabilities in all schools in the Peterborough area. The primary focus of a Hub is to equip themselves and other schools to support students with specific SEND. Some of these Hubs have a limited number of places for students.

You can find out more about the network of Hubs at

<https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/residents/special-educational-needs/local-offer/early-years-education-and-training/education/>

Middleton Primary School  
NENE GATE  
Ormiston Meadows Academy  
Southfields Primary School  
Wainborne Primary School  
Peterborough Specialist Hub Network  
JACK HUNT SCHOOL  
A Specialist Language & Sports College  
St John Fisher Catholic High School  
NenePark Academy  
Ormiston Bushfield Academy  
The VOYAGER Academy  
PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL  
SEND | Special Educational Needs & Disability

The Peterborough Primary Hub for pupils with Hearing Impairment is based at Middleton Primary School. The Hub caters for a small number of pupils who may find that they need communication support to access the learning opportunities in a mainstream school. By providing pupils with appropriate and individualised support the Hub aims to integrate the pupils fully within the life of the school.

Hub professionals support the pupils to access lessons and extracurricular activities.



For further information, please see the Peterborough Local Offer:  
[www.peterborough.gov.uk/localoffer](http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/localoffer) or contact the  
Primary Hearing Impairment Hub Manager: Mrs Nicola Maker QTS  
([nmaker@middletonprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:nmaker@middletonprimaryschool.co.uk) or 01733 262696)



## What do the Hubs offer to help?

For Hearing Impaired pupils, Middleton school offers individualised support based on the preferred communication method identified by the family, the hearing technology used and the level of need. Pupils learn within the mainstream classroom for the majority of the time, with targeted support provided by experienced school staff. Each pupil also has a personalised support timetable with individualised language targets supported by experienced school staff and local multi agency specialists (such as teachers of the deaf, speech and language communication therapists) who work in partnership with the school team (SENCo, class teacher and support staff).

We can offer to support

- Modelling the use of visual resources to aid inclusive practises in classes, including sign dependent learners.
- Modelling the use of Visual Phonics by hand in the classroom
- Modelling good acoustic learning environments including the use of Soundfield systems and radio aid technology

The school employ a number of skilled teaching, support and pastoral staff to support a wide variety of SEND needs. Middleton staff have a range of qualifications to support children with hearing impairment including staff with Level 4 and 6 British Sign Language qualifications. Some school staff are bilingual and able to support families with English as Additional Language to support the parental voice in their child's learning experiences. All school staff undertake an induction process with the SENCo and pastoral team to ensure Middleton school offers inclusive practise.

## What difference does the Hub make?

A hub assessment placement was requested by the LA to support the Access Plan Do Review details for an EHC needs assessment. The learner was Year 1, new to the country, with no access to sound following meningoencephalitis illness at 13 months of age. Although she had access to her home language during her initial year of life she had no English language skills. Whilst awaiting a cochlear implant she was introduced to sign support and is now learning to listen and starting to develop the speech, fulfilling an aspiration of her parent.

## Improving support across Peterborough

The Hub has a key role in modelling and assisting schools to improve their support for students with hearing impairment. It does this by offering, through arrangement with hub manager:

- Training for teachers to support literacy and numeracy and cross-curriculum access, accessing mainstream peer learning groups
- Training on dovetailing targeted interventions to nurture speech and listening development within the mainstream learning;
- Modelling deaf friendly Success For All (SFA) delivery

## How do I get a place at the Hub?

Placements are via the SEND Panel. Pupils wishing to be considered for a place in the Hub must have an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) identifying hearing impairment as the primary need and an significant language delay due to their hearing impairment. For any queries about admission to the hub please contact the Local Authority Statutory and Monitoring Service 01733 863733.