**Teaching and supporting Hearing Impaired students**

**General things to remember**

* Ensure you have the attention of the student before speaking.
* Allow them to choose where to sit to maximise their hearing. This is important as the student may be able to hear better with one ear than the other.
* Visual information is important. Hand outs and information on the board is essential for clarity.
* Always face the student while speaking and ensure that you do not have anything in front of your face. Try not to move your head around or walk around the room while speaking.
* Hearing Impaired students find it very difficult to hear when there is background noise, so keep this to a minimum.
* When other students ask questions, it is important for the teacher to repeat the question asked by the student to ensure that everyone hears the question.
* Remember to give clear preferably visual information on any change of schedule or homework to be completed before the lesson ends to ensure that the student is aware of it.
* Remember that the writing quality of hearing impaired students may reflect their difficulty in hearing the ends of words or very short words such as prepositions and articles.

**Group work**

* It’s good to tactfully put in place measures for group work. Other students need to be aware that they need to speak one at a time.
* They can sit in an arrangement preferable to accommodate the student so that they can see everyone in their group and, if someone is making notes, sit close to them.

**Practical Work**

* When doing practical lessons, ensure that the student can see the practical demonstration and also have the information about what they are doing in a visual form, perhaps written instructions, or ensure that the exercise is explained clearly before the practical starts.

**Technology and Hearing Impaired students**

* It may be necessary for the teacher to wear a microphone which is attached to a receiver which the student wears. If this is the case, you will be shown how to use it.