



Cochlear Classroom Care Guides



**Practical advice
for teachers**

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Optimise classroom learning for your students with Cochlear™ Sound Processors.

The listening skills of hearing impaired children compared to children with normal hearing can vary greatly due to many factors. Here are some practical tips that can help guide you when it comes to providing additional support for a student with a cochlear implant.

1 Seating

- **Classroom learning** - Aim to position the child so that they are able to get the best auditory and visual information from you and fellow classmates. Seat the child near you and not at the back of the classroom.
- **Group learning** - Reduce the number of students in each small group. Seat children in a circle or horseshoe arrangement for discussions.

2 Acoustics

- Background noise can make it more difficult for students with a hearing impairment to understand spoken language.
- Where possible, try to ensure that any noise sources in the classroom are positioned behind the child.
 - Position the child away from noisy distractions such as fans, vents, doors and windows.
 - Reduce background noise by using soft materials such as curtains, rugs or corkboards on the wall.

3 FM or Mini Microphone

- If your student has an FM system or the Cochlear Wireless Mini Mic 2+, we recommend familiarising yourself with these devices. These devices can help to optimise your student's listening and speech understanding in a busy classroom and make your job teaching the child much easier.
- If you need more information about how to use the device, please reach out to your local hearing implant audiology service or Cochlear customer services for more information.

4 Classroom communication

- Speak in a natural, clear voice and at a regular rate whilst facing the class.
- Repeat or rephrase questions or comments posed by another student before responding or calling on the next student.

5 Giving instructions

- Teach the class about basic strategies to make listening and communicating easier for their hearing-impaired classmate (pg 4).
- When giving instructions, write key information on the board and use short simple sentences.
- Wait for the whole class to be quiet before giving new spoken instructions.
- Speak with your voice directed towards the children, i.e. Don't talk to the class with your back turned towards them or when walking away.
- Start with "gearing up to listen" words because the child may miss the first few words when you begin to speak. For example, "Now children, put your toys away" may work better than "Put your toys away."
- Slow down and add short pauses to give time for your instructions to be heard and processed.
- Rephrase. If the child does not understand what was said the first time, say it in a different way the second time.



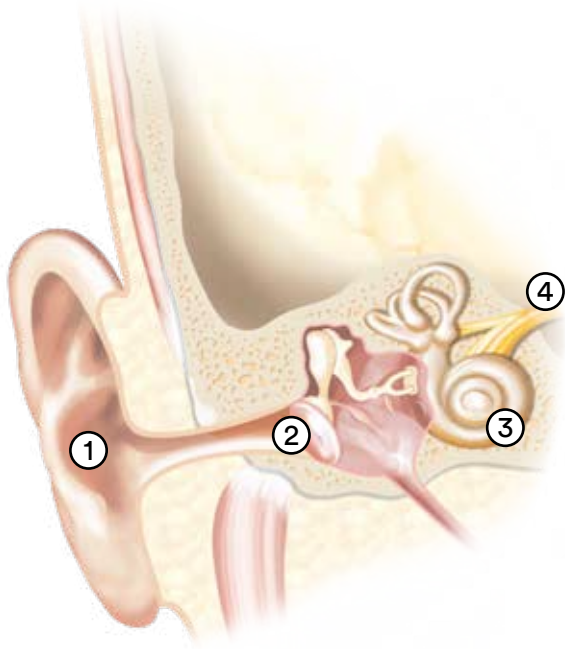
Learning about Cochlear Implants

We recommend teaching your class about basic strategies to make listening and communication easier for their hearing-impaired classmate. Below are some tips to orient other children in your classroom to the child with a cochlear implant.

- 1 Speak clearly and directly** - Slow down and speak clearly when talking to your classmate with a cochlear implant. You don't need to shout what you are saying as it makes it more difficult for your classmate to hear.
- 2 Stand closely** - When you are talking to your classmate, be sure to stand close to them. The further you stand away, the harder it is for them to hear. Hearing devices work best when you are within half a metre.
- 3 Get your classmate's attention** - Before you start speaking, you should always try to call their name or signal in some way so that they make eye contact with you.
- 4 Stand still when you talk** - When you are speaking, stand still and face your classmate. It can make it hard to understand when you are moving or if they can't see your face.
- 5 Ask for help** - If you think your classmate is having trouble hearing what you are saying, ask the teacher for help.

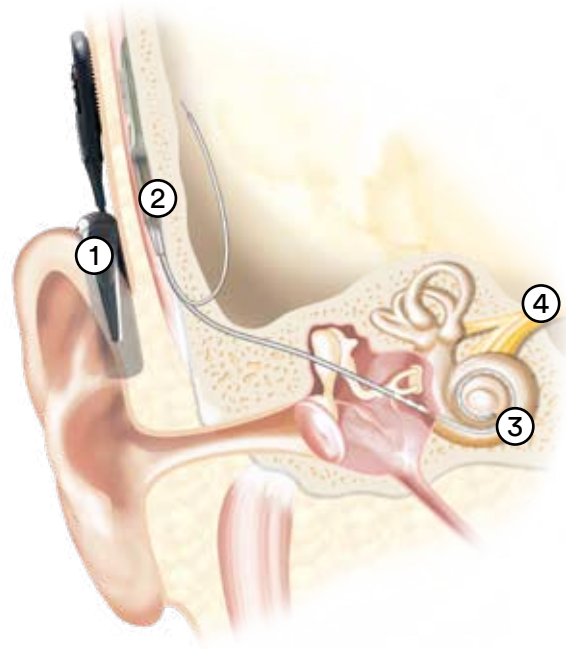
Hearing with a Cochlear Implant

It's important you understand how hearing works and compare that to how hearing works when a person has a cochlear implant.



How the ear hears

- 1 Sound moves through the ear canal and strikes the eardrum.
- 2 Sound waves cause the eardrum and the three bones within the ear to vibrate.
- 3 The vibrations ripple through the fluid in the spiral inner ear, known as the cochlea, and cause the tiny hair cells in the cochlea to move.
- 4 The hair cells absorb the movement and change it into electric impulses, which are sent to the hearing nerve and then to the brain, where they are interpreted as sound.



How a Cochlear Implant transmits sound

- 1 The sound processor captures sound through microphones and converts it into digital code.
- 2 The sound processor transmits the digitally coded sound through the coil to the implant, just under the skin.
- 3 The implant converts the digitally coded sound to electrical signals and sends them along the electrode array, which is positioned in the cochlea.
- 4 The implant's electrodes stimulate the cochlea's hearing nerve fiber, which relays the sound signals to the brain to produce hearing sensations.

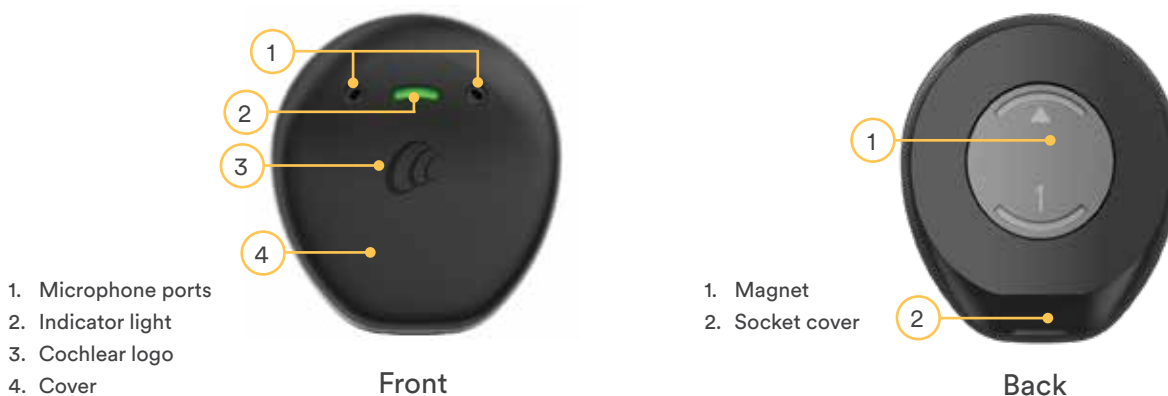
Navigating the sound processor

Familiarising yourself with the different parts of your student's sound processor can help with basic troubleshooting in the classroom or in situations when you need to communicate any issues with the child's parents, other professionals or the Cochlear customer service team.

Behind the ear sound processor



Off the ear sound processor



Cochlear Family

Hear now. And always

Cochlear is dedicated to helping people with moderate to profound hearing loss experience a world full of hearing. As the global leader in implantable hearing solutions, we have provided more than 750,000 devices and helped people of all ages to hear and connect with life's opportunities.

We aim to give people the best lifelong hearing experience and access to next generation technologies. We collaborate with leading clinical, research and support networks to advance hearing science and improve care.

That's why more people choose Cochlear than any other hearing implant company.

www.cochlear.com   

Please seek advice from your health professional about treatments for hearing loss. Outcomes may vary, and your health professional will advise you about the factors which could affect your outcome. Always follow the directions for use. Not all products are available in all countries. Please contact your local Cochlear representative for product information. For further information, precaution and warnings, please consider to read instructions for use.

ACE, Advance Off-Stylet, AOS, Ardium, AutoNRT, Autosensitivity, Baha, Baha SoftWear, BCDrive, Beam, Bring Back the Beat, Button, Carina, Cochlear, 科利耳, コクレア, 코클리어, Cochlear SoftWear, Contour, 콘트우아, Contour Advance, Custom Sound, DermaLock, Freedom, Hear now. And always, Hugfit, Human Design, Hybrid, Invisible Hearing, Kanso, LowPro, MET, MP3000, myCochlear, mySmartSound, NRT, Nucleus, Osia, Outcome Focused Fitting, Off-Stylet, Piezo Power, Profile, Slimline, SmartSound, Softip, SoundArc, True Wireless, the elliptical logo, Vistafix, Whisper, WindShield and Xidium are either trademarks or registered trademarks of the Cochlear group of companies. Cochlear, Hear now. And always, Nucleus, Kanso, Baha, Osia, the elliptical logo, and marks bearing an ® or ™ symbol, are either trademarks or registered trademarks of the Cochlear group of companies (unless otherwise noted).

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