

What happens at a Hearing Assessment?

Typically, what happens at a hearing assessment is:

- › The audiologist will begin by asking questions of the family / student about their hearing
- › They will look in the ears with an otoscope (a handheld tool with a light and a magnifying lens) – looking for ear wax, blockage, and will look at the ear canal and ear drum
- › They will test the hearing, usually in a soundproof booth, with the student wearing headphones. Occasionally students will not want to wear headphones and possibly the audiologist can put sounds into the room and watch the student’s reaction
- › Testing includes sounds from very loud to very quiet and sounds that cover low tones to high tones
- › The audiologist will discuss the results of the tests and discuss next steps – could be more testing, hearing aids, seeing a medical doctor – ENT (Ear, Nose and Throat Doctor)
- › Many students who wear hearing aids go every six or twelve months. They may go sooner to the audiologist if there is a problem with their hearing aids, a change in their hearing (or if the family sees a change in hearing responses), if there is an infection, or wax build-up