

FREE IN SCHOOL EAR & HEARING HEALTH CHECKS

It is important to have an Ear and Hearing Health Check, because children with hearing loss are at more risk of speech, language and learning difficulties.



1 out of 10 children have an unknown hearing loss when they start school.

Did you know your child could have fluctuating conductive hearing loss from OTITIS MEDIA?

Fluctuating – rising and falling irregularly.

Conductive hearing loss – when sounds cannot get through the outer and middle ear.

What is Otitis Media?

- **ALL** infections or swelling of the middle ear (middle ear infection, swimmer's ear, glue ear)
- usually associated with a build-up of fluid in the middle ear (the fluid may or may not be infected)
- can impact a child's hearing – **most common cause of hearing loss in young children**
- children regularly suffer from Otitis Media

Because of Otitis Media, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children...

- have the highest reported rates of Otitis Media and burst ear drums **IN THE WORLD**
- have Otitis Media from a younger age and more often
- have Otitis Media that lasts longer and are often more severe
- **can suffer long-term hearing loss**
- often have impacts on learning outcomes due to hearing loss



What might hearing loss look like for your child?

- has trouble reading
- struggle to say different words
- poor school results
- poor behaviour
- says 'what' or 'huh' often
- can't hear in noisy places
- TV & devices up too loud

What can you do to make sure your child has doesn't have a hearing loss?

- Complete the Hearing Australia Ear and Hearing Health Check consent forms
- Return your completed consent forms to the school (teacher or office) **as soon as possible**
- Make sure your child is at school on the Ear and Hearing Health Days to get your child's FREE Ear and Hearing Health Check