

School Hearing Screening

Interpreting your child's results

	RESULTS	WHAT THIS MEANS	RECOMMENDATIONS
OTOSCOPY	Clear	The ear canal was clear for testing. There may still be some wax but not significant enough for medical attention.	No further action is required.
	Discharge sighted	This can be a sign of infection or injury.	Please see your doctor for advice.
	Foreign object sighted	An object was seen in the ear canal that doesn't belong.	Please see your doctor for advice and removal. Do not attempt to remove the object yourself.
	Grommet sighted	Grommets were noted in place in the eardrum.	No further action is required.
	Refer	Visual inspection of the ear canal and/or ear drum indicates medical attention is needed.	Please see your doctor for advice.
	Significant wax	There is a significant amount of wax in your child's ear.	Please see your doctor for wax management. Do not attempt to remove the wax yourself.
	Tympanic membrane perforation	A hole was sighted in the ear drum.	Please see your doctor for advice. It is recommended to keep the ear as dry as possible (wear ear plugs while swimming and in the shower) to prevent infection and allow it to heal over.
TYMPANOMETRY	Pass	The middle ear is functioning normally.	No further action is required.
	Refer, consistent with middle ear dysfunction	Suggests the presence of middle ear pathology, such as, fluid or a blockage in the middle ear. This can reduce the ability of sound to travel through the middle ear.	Please see your doctor for advice.
	Monitor, consistent with Eustachian tube dysfunction	The Eustachian tube connects the middle ear to the back of nose and throat. Its role is to aerate the middle ear space. When this tube is not draining properly, the ear can feel blocked or full, and have popping/crackling sounds. It often recovers by itself, and the middle ear will return to normal.	Monitor your child's symptoms, encourage nose blowing. If symptoms become worse, please see your doctor for advice.
	Large ear canal volume, consistent with open grommet	Suggests the grommet is in place and working well.	No further action is required.
	Refer, results indicate large ear canal volume	Suggests there may be a hole in the ear drum.	Please see your doctor for advice. Keep the ear as dry as possible (wear ear plugs while swimming and in the shower) to prevent infection and allow it to heal over.
	Refer, consistent with middle ear dysfunction and/or blocked grommet	The grommet is in place but is not working properly as it may be blocked.	Please see your doctor or ENT for advice.
HEARING SCREEN	Pass	Hearing was measured within normal limits.	No further action is required.
	High priority refer, hearing sensitivity outside normal limits*	Your child did not respond to screening levels (representative of normal hearing). The hearing screen is not a diagnostic test, and your child has been flagged for a follow-up hearing test.	Please book a follow-up hearing test. It is recommended your child have a full hearing test by an audiologist in optimal test conditions.

*if your child also received a refer result for otoscopy and/or tympanometry we recommend waiting six to eight weeks for a further hearing assessment, to allow the middle ear to clear.

