



Aldercar High School



Deaf and Hearing Impaired Enhanced Resource Facility (ERF)

School Values and Ethos

As a small school in the heart of our local community our mission statement remains the same each year and that is to achieve the best possible outcomes for all our students thereby ensuring the best life chances for everybody in our care.

This is underpinned by a belief that 'an education' is more than just a set of qualifications but is an experience which allows young people to enhance their natural talents, gifts and abilities. We are committed to ensuring that all children receive a first class education that prepares them thoroughly for the future and allows them to play an active role in the life of the school and wider community.

We strive to ensure that all our students are supported to be the articulate, tolerant, resilient and caring young people who will go into the world beyond Aldercar High School capable of achieving great things and making a difference.

Our House system fosters healthy competition in a wide range of sports and activities emphasising loyalty, commitment, good sportsmanship and a sense of fair play. Everyone at our school is a member of a House and engages regularly in House activities, with a House assembly once a week to reinforce the sense of community and belonging.

We are very proud of our caring reputation built up over many years for supporting students of all abilities to achieve excellent results at both GCSE and A level which enables them to move on to the best in higher education, training and employment.

Aldercar High School is a school about individuals and it is our vision that everybody feels that they have a voice which can be heard within the school and a personalised experience which enables them to succeed both personally and academically.



Hearing Impaired ERF

The Enhanced Resource Facility (ERF) as part of Aldercar High School supports deaf students with a range of hearing loss types and degrees.



We pride ourselves in delivering a high standard of support for all our deaf students. A range of communication approaches are used to suit the needs of each student. British sign language (BSL), signed supported English (SSE) and spoken/ written English are all used, equally valued and respected.

Deaf Awareness:

We want to ensure that everyone in our school community is deaf aware.

- In the first half term, all year 7s have a deaf awareness session to ensure they understand how best to facilitate communication with their deaf friends.
- All new staff also have deaf awareness training when they start at this school.
- Mainstream teachers have enhanced, deaf-focused CPD yearly to increase their awareness of the issues that some deaf students face, such as the impact on self-regulatory skills.



Deaf Studies:

Deaf and hearing impaired students come together once a fortnight for deaf studies. These lessons are taught by the Deaf mentor. They aim to increase students audiological independence, as well as their personal understanding of deafness. Each year they will study 5 topics including;

- Identity
- Communication
- Communication technology
- Deaf community and culture
- Deaf history.



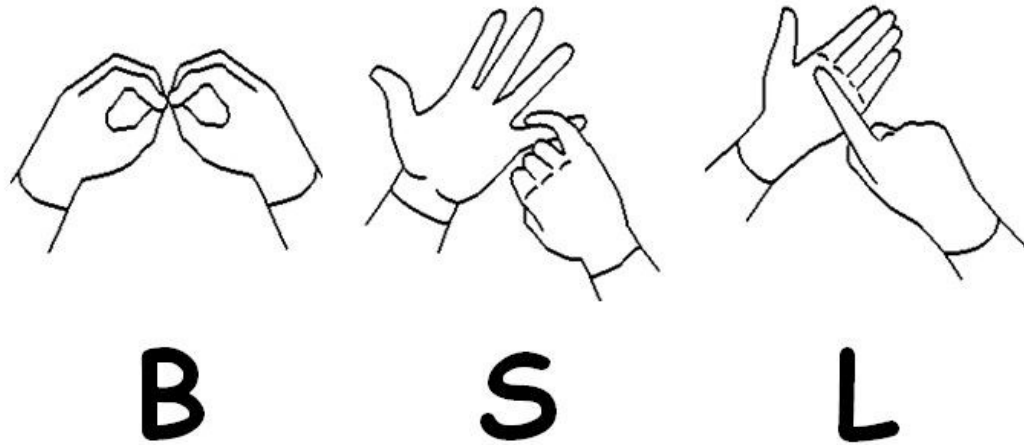
Personal Curriculum (PC):

Students that are part of the ERF also have the option to drop a GCSE and have small group intervention instead. This time may be spent doing pre/ post tutoring, developing their Maths and English skills, revising or working on their EHCP targets.

Communication

British Sign Language:

Deaf students have their opportunity to study BSL Level 1 whilst they are at Aldercar High School, taught by our Deaf Mentor.



Audiology

It is widely recognised that deaf students receive maximum benefit from amplification if it is used consistently and if pupils are given opportunities and support to develop their auditory experience.

Students at Aldercar are expected to wear, use and maintain their hearing aids/ cochlear implants and radio aids daily.

This ensures they have the opportunity to develop the best use of their hearing in order to communicate, learn and strive both within school and in their wider lives.

We aim to encourage students within our ERF to develop a positive deaf identity whilst using amplification to support their communication and life skills.

Many classrooms in school have soundfields and radio aids in them. This means that in most core lessons, teachers will use this equipment to help give the best access to speech. Deaf students also have their own radio aid which they can take round school with them to classrooms that don't have one already.



At Aldercar High School we believe that students should be enabled to communicate using whichever communication method they prefer. We have a dedicated team who can facilitate this throughout the school day.

Communication Support in lessons:

The support that deaf and hearing impaired students can receive in lessons is tailor made to each child and their communication and educational needs. This can include:

- Lesson content delivered using BSL
- Lesson content delivered using spoken, signed English (SSE)
- Note taking
- Differentiating work to the student's level of understanding
- Suggesting ways the environment can be improved to make it easier for the person they are supporting



Extra – Curricular Opportunities

Students that are a part of the Deaf and hearing impaired ERF have the option to engage in a wide variety of extra-curricular activities.



At Christmas we often go on a group trip to the pantomime. To ensure there is good access for all deaf and hearing impaired pupils, we see the show that has both captions and an interpreter. This means that no matter how you access speech, everyone can enjoy the show!

We enjoy sign song and have put on sign song performances in partnership with other schools with ERFs for deaf pupils.



Some pupils in the ERF access alternative provision such as going fishing or doing mechanics. We support them to access lessons and activities that they enjoy and will use later in life.



Working in Partnership

As a school, we have close links to external professionals and organisations that can help to support students with their learning and development.

We regularly work closely with a variety of professionals including:

- Educational psychologists
- Occupational Therapist
- Speech and Language Therapy
- The Sensory support team
- Behaviour services
- Autism Outreach
- The National Careers Service
- Educational Audiology
- Clinical Audiology
- The Cochlear implant team
- The NDCS
- Deaf CAMHS



Transition

Whether you are just starting at Aldercar High School, moving onto higher or further education, or moving into the world of work, we pride ourselves in providing a comprehensive transition process. This helps students to become familiar with our school or their next provision, and ease any anxiety they may have about the change.

When Starting at Aldercar High school:

From the very start, we aim to develop strong links with parents and carers of prospective students. For students with EHCPs, we aim to attend their final annual review before starting with us. This enables us to get to know the child and to meet the professionals involved with them.

Once you have a place in school, we offer transition visits. The length and amount are tailored to the needs of each individual.

When students begin in school, we will keep in close contact with parents and carers and give them updates on how their child is settling in and any suggestions for improvements.



When leaving Aldercar High school:

At the sad time when it is time to move on from Aldercar High school, we support our students in their transition to their new placement. For those leaving us to go to college or university, this might include:

- Support choosing what they would like to study and where.
- Inviting professionals from their new educational establishment to the pupil's final annual review.
- Visits to the new college or university.
- Supporting students to develop their understanding of PIP funding, DLA, student finance and Disabled students allowance.
- Travel training

Key contacts

If you are interested in your child attending Aldercar High School ERF for Deaf and Hearing Impaired children, we encourage you to arrange a visit to look around the school, meet the team and find out more.



Please email dlord@aldercarhigh.co.uk

Alternatively, you can call the school on [01773 712477](tel:01773712477)

or visit our website <https://www.aldercarhigh.co.uk/>





Main school



Sports Hall



The Phoenix Centre



Library



Aldercar High School

Daltons Close, Langley Mill, Nottingham, NG16 4HL

Tel: 01773 712477

[Www.aldercarhigh.co.uk](http://www.aldercarhigh.co.uk)

Head Teacher: Mrs C Hatto