

Auditory Processing assessments can be carried out for children who have normal hearing sensitivity but display learning difficulties, for example, difficulty processing information in the presence of background noise.

Testing is carried out over a session which takes approximately 2½ hours, (optionally can be conducted over two separate days). The hearing and memory tests are performed first followed by the auditory processing tests. Some children require frequent breaks, and we suggest that parents provide a drink or snack if required.

The standard test battery for children aged 7 years and above include: -

1. Case History

The audiologist will ask specific questions regarding your child's learning skills and other hearing related concerns. Please bring any reports obtained from professionals such as the speech pathologist, educational psychologist or schoolteacher.

2. Hearing Test

Please bring along any past hearing tests carried out. A hearing test will exclude any possible middle ear pathology.

3. Auditory Memory Tests

This assesses your child's memory for numbers and sentences.

4. Auditory Processing Tests

i. Dichotic Digits Test (binaural integration).

ii. Competing Sentences Test (binaural separation).

These two tests (i. & ii.) assess the child's ability to listen to information presented simultaneously to both ears.

iii. Frequency Pitch Pattern Test (temporal patterning). This test requires the child to detect subtle differences in sound.

iv. Low Pass Filtered Word Test (monaural low redundancy speech test). This test requires the child to understand the whole word when part of the message is missing.

v. Masked Level Difference test (binaural interaction). This test assesses the ability of the child to process different but complementary information in both ears.

vi. Random Gap Detection test (temporal processing). This test assesses the child's ability to detect two tones presented at different intervals.

Further testing

If required, the audiologist may suggest electrophysiological testing. These tests measure the brain's response to sounds. Appropriate referrals to other professionals will also be discussed.

Reports

Following the assessment, the audiologist will provide you with a brief summary of the results. A detailed report will then be sent within 4-5 days of the appointment. A follow-up consultation can also be arranged if further information is required.

If you have any further queries, please contact the clinic on 02 9907 7955.