



deaf education through
listening and talking

DELTA is a charity that supports deaf children, their families and practitioners. We know that the vast majority of deaf children can learn to listen and talk. We believe that all parents of deaf children should be given this option. We are a charity and rely solely on grants, donations and fundraising activities for our income.

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Charity No:1115603 Company No:5698173

Why DELTA?



Because it works!

DELTA stands for Deaf Education through Listening and Talking

It is a charity that was formed in 1980 by a group of dedicated Teachers of the deaf who thought deaf children, especially those who have a severe or profound loss, should be able to achieve to their full potential, despite their deafness.

The key to this is in following the **natural aural approach**. We have the technology today to enable deaf children to listen and pick up language, just as hearing children do.

It is natural because it's about learning to talk in the natural way - the way all children do in the beginning. Deaf children can learn to talk just like hearing children do by interacting and responding to Mum and Dad, carers, grandparents, siblings who coo to them, play peek a boo with them, sing to them, listen to them and chat with them.

It is aural because it is to do with the ear and hearing and listening. The emphasis is on the deaf child using their hearing. With good equipment, worn all the time, well set up and carefully looked after, deaf children **can** have a listening and talking life.

The natural aural approach depends on the child's hearing being appropriately managed to ensure that their hearing aids, cochlear implants or bone-anchored aids are set optimally. By using this equipment effectively, the approach maximizes all interactions with whomever the child meets within the home, school or community.

DELTA has hard evidence and research that this approach works and deaf children are talking and achieving well in their exams, their jobs and their lives. The deaf young adults who have grown up with DELTA and now help run our events are testament to this approach.

DELTA's members include: teachers of the deaf, audiologists, parents of deaf children, deaf young people, and adults providing support for families and professionals in the following ways:

Summer Schools:

Short courses for pre-school, primary age and secondary age children and their families. The children, including all their siblings are looked after on site or go on outings, whilst the parents attend workshops run by professionals. The workshops cover a range of information from the latest technology to helping children to listen and develop language and literacy. It also gives families an opportunity to meet other families and young deaf adults who are living their lives independently and achieving their full potential

Here's what the parents say about our Summer Schools:

"DELTA has been a constant support to us. We have found the information very valuable and have learned a lot that normally you wouldn't be told. It has changed our lives and given us hope for the future"

"Once again a fantastic week, 3 years ago I had tears of hope, now I have tears of joy with how far we have come, all of it thanks to DELTA. It has been a life changing experience"

DELTA recognises that having a hearing impaired child does not affect the family's natural skills and abilities to develop listening and talking children.

DELTA celebrates the child's natural abilities, and most importantly empowers families and carers to recognise their skills that allow their deaf children the opportunities to speak for themselves.

**Further information:
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