



## Hearing Screening in Children

### **The importance of having your child screened:**

School age screenings are important for the purpose of identifying children with hearing loss. Without routine screenings, hearing loss may not be identified and managed which can lead to negative academic consequences.

### **Signs your child may be experiencing hearing loss include:**

- Your child inconsistently responding to sound
- Language and speech development is delayed
- Speech is unclear
- Volume is turned up on electronics
- Your child doesn't follow directions
- Your child often says "Huh?" or "What?"
- Your child does not respond when called

### **When should children be screened?**

Newborns are routinely screened prior to leaving the hospital, and most preschool and school age children are screened periodically at their school or doctor's offices.

In the Elmbrook School District, children in grades K, 1 and 5 are screened annually, along with any child referred by a parent or teacher. Any child that wears hearing aids or has cochlear implants will not be screened at school.

**\*\*Anytime you have a concern about your child's hearing, you should contact your doctor about obtaining a hearing screening. You may also call your child's school nurse to request a screening; you may bring those results to your doctor's office for further evaluation.**

### **Hearing screening tool used: *Pure-Tone Testing***

This tool determines the faintest tones a person can hear at certain pitches. Earphones are used for this screening in a quiet environment so that information can reliably be collected for each ear. For the screening, our child will be asked to raise their hand when they hear the tone or 'beep'.

### **Results of the hearing screening:**

If your child is not successful with the first hearing screening, a second one will be conducted at school within 2 weeks. *If the second screening is unsuccessful, you will be notified and your child will be referred to their doctor for an exam.* Most often, ear wax build-up, fluid in the ears, or an ear infection is the cause of decreased hearing. The doctor's exam will determine treatment needed to resolve the issue.



**If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call your school nurse.**