

North American Inclusion Month

NAIM

BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE JEWISH COMMUNITY

The Do's and Don'ts when you Have a Child who is Hearing Impaired in your Classroom

DO:

- Use as many visual aids as possible.
- Seat the student in the front of the classroom.
- Ask the student if he/she is hearing the information.
- Encourage the student to ask the teacher to repeat what he/she has not heard.
- Encourage the student to ask questions and raise his/her hand.
- Use attention-getting signals that have been set up with the hearing-impaired student. Hand signals or flashing classroom lights are effective.
- Seat the student in front of the auditorium and use the auditory trainer, interpreter, or transliterator during all assemblies.
- Use the auditory trainer, interpreter, or transliterator on field trips.
- Send home a written schedule of assignments and tests.
- Send a copy of new vocabulary words and new topics of instruction to the student's supplemental teacher and to the student's parents at the beginning of each week. This will help familiarize the student with unknown vocabulary.
- Allow the hearing-impaired student to use a tape recorder to record classes. Parents can then help transcribe classroom instruction and discussions. This will help the student get the complete message.
- Set up a buddy system to help ensure that the hearing-impaired student takes accurate notes of classroom instruction and discussion and gets assignments. Students can take turns doing this *chessed*.
- Communicate daily with the student's parents through a written journal.



For more information contact:
Yachad, The National Jewish Council for Disabilities



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DON'T:

- Speak in an excessively loud voice. Loud speech can be distorted and hard to understand.
- Talk excessively slowly or slur words.
- Talk with your back to the classroom or with anything blocking your mouth.
- Walk around the classroom while speaking.
- Assume that the hearing-impaired student has heard everything that is communicated to the class. Ask frequent questions to verify that the whole message is being received by the student.



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