



World Hearing Day

Tuesday 3 March 2020

HEARING awareness **WEEK** 1 - 7 March

Hearing impairment, or deafness, is when your hearing is affected by a condition or injury. Some people are born with a hearing loss while others may develop it as they get older.

Most commonly, hearing loss happens with age or is caused by loud noises.

One in six Australians is hearing impaired, Deaf or has an ear disorder.

Damage to your hearing is often a gradual process - the effects of noise exposure are permanent. What is excessive noise? When you must raise your voice to be able to speak to someone at an arm's length.

Some of the early warning signs for children may be: don't respond when called, talk too loudly; watch the TV with the volume up too high; delay in speech and may have a family history of hearing issues. For adults the early warning signs may be: can hear but not understand; you find it hard to hear in noisy situations or groups of people; you think people mumble; you need turn the TV up louder than others or, you don't always hear the doorbell or the phone.

How loud is too loud? <http://www.hearingawarenessweek.org.au/too-loud>

How can I check if my child has a hearing problem?

If you think that you or your child may have hearing problems, see your GP. They will assess the ear for any problems, such as earwax or a perforated eardrum.

Your GP may refer you to an audiologist (hearing specialist) or an ENT (Ear, Nose and Throat) specialist for further tests.

Hearing assessments can also be carried out by myself at the school. Please speak to your child's teacher to facilitate this.

Your school health nurse,

Andrea Pereira