COBB COUNTY AUDIOLOGY PRESENTS
HEARING SCREENING TRAINING

AUDIOLOGISTS:

- Dr. Karen Mobley
- Dr. Donna Wallis
- Dr. Cindy Fleming
- Dr. Abby Bohler
PHONE NUMBERS

• Audiology Appointments -
  (678) 581-7400

• Please call us anytime if you have questions regarding the hearing screening process.
Audiology Services Location

- 6975 Cobb International Blvd.
  Suite 400
  Kennesaw, Georgia 30152
  (Kennesaw Warehouse)

Office Assistant: Sonia Velez (speaks Spanish)
Audiology Paraprofessional – Lynda Entsminger & Katie Lovett
FOR DIRECTIONS and OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT COBB COUNTY AUDIOLOGY:

Pay attention to:

- Why the hearing screening program is important
- Which students will be tested
- Which students are NEVER to be tested
- Where to test and how to place the student
- The loudness level for the test stimulus
- The frequencies provided for the test
- How many responses are required to mark a
- What happens after a student fails the screening
WHY IS HEARING SCREENING IMPORTANT?

- About 60% of instructional activity involves listening (ANSI S12.60-2002)

- 1 in 1000 children will develop a hearing loss after birth. Each year students are identified with permanent sensory hearing loss as a result of our hearing screening program!

- Identification of middle ear fluid and ear infections which can cause a temporary hearing problem

- Identification of noise induced hearing loss
Hearing loss affects 1 in 5 U.S. TEENS

- One in five American teenagers now suffers from some type of hearing loss, an increase of 31% since the mid 1990’s.

- Researchers based their findings on records of and interviews with nearly 4,700 kids ages 12-19, led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
THE FACTS

- 5.2 million, 6-19 year old children in the United States had hearing loss directly related to noise exposure (Niskar et.al. 2000, The 3rd National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey)

- 20% of young adults, 17 to 25 years old, enter the workforce with evidence of early hearing loss consistent with noise exposure

- Children with minimal hearing loss tend to have more learning difficulties that children with normal hearing (Bess et al., 1998, Centers for Disease Control)
DPH Form 3300

- The 3300 Form can only be completed by an audiologist, speech pathologist or registered nurse.
PERSONS WHO ADMINISTER A HEARING SCREENING MUST:

1. Complete training course
2. Pass a written test
3. Demonstrate mastery of hearing screening procedure at a “hands on” check out session
The screening protocol is a published protocol from the American Speech/Hearing Association

You are not allowed to personally train anyone else to perform a hearing screening.
STUDENTS TO BE SCREENED
1. Mass screening

- Grades: 1st, 4th, 7th, 10th

- All **NEW** Students to Cobb County Schools

  - Parental Permission **IS NOT** required for these students to be screened.

Attendance records should be checked at least once a month for new students. New students should be screened within one month of enrollment.
2. Referral Students

- Students who are referred by a teacher, parent, or other staff person and are **NOT** part of the MASS screenings.

  - Parental Permission **IS REQUIRED**

  - Student must be tested within **ONE MONTH** of referral
Never Test a Student
If:
- A red, swollen, or draining ear or abnormal looking ear
  - Refer to school nurse and send failure letter home in U.S. mail

- A foul smelling odor coming from the ear, even with no apparent drainage
  - Refer to school nurse and try to retest in 10-14 days

- Any sores or rashes
  - Refer to school nurse and try to retest in 10–14 days

- Lice
  - Refer to school nurse and try to retest in 10-14 days
NEVER Screen a Student Who Wears Hearing Aids or a Cochlear Implant
• The purpose of a hearing screen is to identify children who may have difficulty hearing.
• Children who wear hearing aids and/or cochlear implants have a diagnosed hearing loss. There is no reason to screen them. All of their testing is to be completed by an audiologist. A hearing screening is not appropriate.

• **DO NOT** put headphones on student over hearing aids or a cochlear implant
• **DO NOT** handle hearing aids or cochlear implant
• **DO NOT** send failure letter home to parent if student wears hearing aids or a cochlear implant
DIFFICULT TO TEST STUDENTS

- If a student seems nervous about the headphone placement, let them handle the headphones and even put them on to see that it is ok. BUT, you need to remove the headphones and place them properly. Tell the student that you are going to help them with the earphones.

- Don’t spend a long time attempting to test any student

- If the screening takes LONGER THAN A FEW MINUTES, mark the student as Failing the screening, and indicate reason (i.e. wouldn’t wear headphones).
DIFFICULT TO TEST STUDENTS

- If you feel that you could NEVER successfully screen the student, FAIL AND REFER WITHOUT RETESTING. Indicate the reason.

- Parents may call us if they have any questions regarding the hearing screening program and how our office will be able to complete a test for their child.
DO NOT SCREEN STUDENTS IMMEDIATELY AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN IN BAND CLASS

Before class is preferred

These students can experience a short term issue with their hearing that may not be permanent.
HEARING SCREENING SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT

1. Audiometer with Headphones
2. Clipboard
3. Forms
4. Pen
5. **Quiet Room with 1 student & 1 tester**
6. Chairs (1 for student and 1 for screener)
7. Table
8. Electrical Outlet (extension cord if needed)
9. Anti-bacterial wipes
10. Hand Sanitizer (Please contact the school to review there Covid-19 Policy on the day of screenings)
PREPARATION

✓ Find a QUIET environment.
✓ If you set up more than 1 test area in the same room, make sure the students cannot see each other.
✓ Do not have students waiting for their turn in view of the child being tested.
✓ The noise level will be lower if you limit the amount of children who are waiting for their turn.
PREPARATION

Plug in and test audiometer (listen to a few beeps for the right and left headphone to make sure everything is working properly).

Arrange chair for the student so their back is to the audiometer, they cannot see you and they cannot view distractions (other students walking around or waiting for their turn).
AUDIOMETER
Set Audiometer as Follows:

1. Power  
   ON
2. Frequency Control  
   1000 Hz
3. Hearing Level  
   25 dB
4. Phone Selector  
   “R” for Right Ear
5. Tone Reverse  
   OFF
6. Masking  
   OFF
7. Pulse or Warble  
   OFF
PUSH HERE TO PRESENT TONE

EARPHONE BUTTONS RIGHT & LEFT EARS

POWER BUTTON PUSH IN FOR ON

BUTTONS SHOULD BE IN THE “UP” POSITION

LEFT PHONE

RIGHT TONE

ON POWER

ON PULSE WARBLE

HEARING LEVEL STIMULUS FREQUENCY

MAICO
Frequency Dial
Hearing Level Dial
TESTING PROCEDURES

1. **Instruct Student** – Keep it simple & headphones are OFF. “We are going to check your hearing. I will place the headphones on your ears. You will hear some very tiny beeps. Each time you hear a beep, raise your hand high so I can see it. I don’t care which hand you raise. Do you have any questions?”

2. **DO NOT** tell the student to raise the hand on the same side of the tone. For example, raise your right hand if the tone is in your right ear. At soft levels, some kids may have difficulty identifying which ear the sound occurred.
3. Ask the student to move their hair behind their ears. For the older girls, you can ask if they want to remove large earrings that might be uncomfortable with headphone placement.

4. Inspect ears for redness, swelling or drainage. A problem or concern will be obvious. If you see an issue, mark “fail” and indicate the problem. Refer to the school nurse.

5. Walk around to the FRONT of the Student. Keep headphone cords in front of the student. Place the headphones on the student as follows:

   A. RED Headphone - RIGHT Ear
   B. BLUE Headphone – LEFT Ear
   C. Spread headphones apart, place over center of ear canals and use both thumbs to slide headphone down for good fit.
• After headphone placement, take a quick look to make sure the center of the headphone is on the center of the head (not placed too forward or backward).

• The earphones should be covering the majority of the ear. You should not see earlobes or the tops of the ears for most of our students.

• If you are unsure, simply remove the headphones and try again.
RIGHT EARPHONE
EXTEND HEADPHONES

- CORRECT
- INCORRECT
6. Order of Testing
All frequencies are tested at 25 dB HL. This loudness level is never changed.

Right Ear/Frequencies: 1,000 2,000 4,000
(then add 6000 for Middle and High School)

THEN, Press button for Left Ear

Left Ear/Frequencies: 1,000 2,000 4,000
(then add 6000 for Middle and High School)
7. At Each Frequency Level, Press Tone Button/Bar for 2-3 FULL seconds. There is no need to press the button with great force. The child will not hear the sound better if you press harder. Simply make sure the presentation light comes on and you know the tone is being presented.

8. Present tones in an IRREGULAR pattern.

9. **MARK THE SCORESHEET**
   
   The child heard 2 tones at the same frequency. For example: 1000 Hz – tone is presented and child raises hand. Tone is presented a 2\textsuperscript{nd} time and the child raises hand. OR the child raises hand with the first tone, not for 2\textsuperscript{nd} tone, raises hand for 3\textsuperscript{rd} tone (the child heard the tone 2 times). Mark the response as a “check mark.”

The child **did not** hear the tones 2 times at the same frequency. For example: 1000 Hz – tone is presented and the child **does not** raise their hand. Tone is presented again with no hand raise. Mark the response as a “minus” sign.
10. The Child Has Failed the Entire Screening if They **FAIL ONE OR MORE FREQUENCIES** in either ear – Check the “FAIL” Box at End of Screening Results Section

11. You must test all frequencies on the scoresheet. You cannot stop when a child receives a missed frequency.

12. Use the Same Procedures on **ALL** Students Whether They are Part of the Mass Screenings or a Staff Referral

13. If the student asks how they did, don’t give them the test results. Inform them they did a great job.
Infection Control

- Due to Covid-19 we are recommending that the headphones and cords be wiped with a disinfectant wipe.
- Do NOT test students with:
  1) lice (don’t conduct hearing screening if the school has a current lice issue)
  2) drainage from an ear
  3) signs of illness

If in doubt do not test. Mark it on the form CNT and reason why.
The person in charge of the entire hearing screening program for your school should fill out the “Final Total Reporting Form” (Form A200) and send the form via County Mail to:

Dr. Cindy Fleming, Audiology
Kennesaw Warehouse or
audiology@Cobbk12.org

Please send this form by January 9, 2023.
(Keep a copy of this form for your records)
FOLLOWUP PROTOCOL

1. Students Who Fail the First Screening are to be Retested After 10 Days, but No Longer than 14 Days.

   First Failure Rate – 12% or less
   Second Failure Rate - 4%-10%
2. Parents of Students who Fail the **SECOND** Hearing Screening are notified using letter (H-1) on Local School Letterhead

   a. Send Failure Letters Through the U.S. Mail
   b. The Deadline for Completing the 2\(^{nd}\) Screening and Mailing Parent Notification is the **WINTER HOLIDAYS**
   c. Failure Rate of 2\(^{nd}\) Screening should be between 4-10%.
   d. **Do Not Send a Failure Letter to Students who Wear Hearing Aids or Cochlear Implants**
3. The Parent Notification Letter (H-1), Requests that Parents Complete and Return Follow-Up Information to the School. If You do not Receive this Information in 30 Days, Send the SECOND FOLLOW-UP Letter, (H-2)

4. All of the Following must be Kept in the School Secretary’s Office for **ONE YEAR**
   a. Recording Forms
   b. Copy of the Parent Notification Letter
   c. All Follow-up Replies
CONFIDENTIALITY

- Confidentiality of student records applies to the hearing screening results.

- Please remember that failure of the hearing screening will only indicate that there may be a problem.
Thank you for being a part of the Cobb County Hearing Screening Program!

We look forward to seeing you at the hands-on check out!