



SECTION 8

# CONTACTS & RESOURCES

## THE PROFESSIONALS

You'll meet many new people who can work with you and your child over the next years. This section lists the professionals you're likely to meet, the service providers you may use, and organisations that you may wish to contact. There is also a list of recommended reading materials, and useful websites.

We have arranged services and resources in alphabetical order within each listing.



### Advisor on Deaf Children (AODC)

AODCs are usually qualified teachers experienced in working with deaf children who also have special training in working with families. In most cases, an AODC is a family's key contact person. They work with family members to help them understand the implication of their child's hearing loss, and talk to parents about how deaf children can learn to communicate and understand. The AODC may go with a family to visit the audiologist and will adapt the audiologist's recommendations to suit the needs of each child. They work with other professionals to make sure your child receives all the services they are entitled to.

### Audiologist

Audiologists have a post-graduate qualification in hearing assessment and the management of hearing loss. The audiologist is most likely to be the first professional a family will meet when a hearing loss is suspected, and is responsible for accurately diagnosing a child's hearing loss. The audiologist will help you understand the implications of your child's hearing loss and will prescribe and fit hearing aids. They will regularly evaluate your child's hearing aids to ensure your child is making the best use of their residual hearing.

A **Paediatric Audiologist** is specially trained to work with children.

A **Cochlear Implant Audiologist** works with children who have a profound hearing loss, during diagnosis and after surgery to ensure a child's cochlear implant is mapped correctly and provides them with optimal sound. They also provide ongoing audiological support, seeing children at least annually to make sure their device is working appropriately for them and working with families to ensure a child has maximised their language potential.

## Auditory-Verbal Therapist (AVT)

An AVT provides intensive therapy that accelerates the way a child would usually develop language and encourages them to speak through listening alone. AVTs offer an individual programme to meet each child's needs. As well as listening, speech and language, AVTs address the areas of cognition, socialisation, physical, and emotional development. A certified AVT is usually a Speech-Language Therapist or Resource Teacher of Deaf who may have a Masters degree and has studied further to gain this international qualification. AVTs usually work with children who have received a cochlear implant or use hearing aids.

## Cochlear Implant Habilitationist

A Cochlear Implant Habilitationist helps to assess the suitability of children referred for a cochlear implant. They also work with the family, the audiological team, and local education providers to coordinate educational management around a child. Generally, these professionals will work with the children on their listening and language development. They may have experience in deaf education. Habilitationists will have completed, or be undergoing, further training in auditory/oral assessment and programming, including Auditory Verbal Therapy.

## Ear, Nose and Throat specialist (ENT)

Also known as an **Otorhinolaryngologist** or **ORL**, these are surgeons who specialise in managing disorders of the ears, nose, and throat. They examine children's ears before hearing aids are fitted to determine if there are any additional problems. The ENT specialist may carry out any treatment required, including surgery (for example, putting in grommets) and will be involved in the ongoing management of any ear infections or wax removal. An ENT specialist is an integral part of the cochlear implant assessment team.

## Ear Nurse

An Ear Nurse is a specially trained Registered Nurse whose focus is ear health. Ear Nurses work in out-patient clinics, private practice, and with GPs.

## Educational Interpreter

This is a qualified sign language interpreter who works with Deaf students using New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) in the classroom. The interpreter will change from one language to the other to enable hearing teachers and students to communicate with the deaf student.

## Educational Psychologist

Registered psychologists sometimes work alongside students, parents, educators, and other mental health services to develop supportive environments for students with difficulties that affect their learning and well-being. In New Zealand most Educational Psychologists work for the Ministry of Education.

## Education Support Worker (ESW)

ESWs are similar to teacher's aides. They usually work in ECE centres and kindergartens. They assist with communication, language development and curriculum learning. Their work is supervised by the Ministry of Education. Training for ESWs is provided by AODCs and the Deaf Education Centres and/or The Hearing House.

## Hearing Therapy Services

Available through the LIFE Unlimited, Hearing Therapy Services provide aural rehabilitation services for adults 16 years upwards. These services consist of hearing evaluations, needs assessment, consumer information and advice, communication skills, hearing instrument management, and community information and advice. The services are funded through the Ministry of Health to people aged 16 and over with any degree of hearing loss.

## Language Assistant

Language Assistants are trained in the Deaf Education Centres and many also complete a Certificate in Deaf Studies through Victoria University. A Language Assistant may be employed to work alongside the classroom teacher and the student, to act as a model for NZSL and Deaf culture.

## New Zealand Sign Language Tutor

These tutors are trained to teach NZSL to families, whānau and those who work with Deaf and hearing impaired students. Most hold a Certificate in Deaf Studies from Victoria University. The tutors may teach individuals or groups.

## Occupational Therapist (OT)

Occupational Therapists may work with deaf children if and when required to help them participate in activities of daily living.

## Ophthalmologist

This is a doctor with special training and an interest in the eyes and visual problems. Some children who are hearing impaired also have visual problems, so it is important that your child's vision is checked.

## ORL (Otorhinolaryngologist)

See *Ear, Nose, and Throat (ENT) specialist*.

## ORS Teacher

See *Resource Teacher: Deaf (RTD)*.

## Paediatrician

This is a doctor with specialist training and an interest in children's health. Some children who are hearing impaired have other disabilities and may need a thorough examination by a paediatrician. Paediatricians may carry out further tests and refer you to other professionals as needed.

## Resource Teacher Deaf (RTD)

These are qualified specialist teachers who support students who have special hearing needs. RTDs are trained in areas of language development, developing spoken English and NZSL, assistive technology, and most importantly, the learning needs of deaf and hearing impaired students. School students who qualify (they are known as "verified")

under the Ongoing Resourcing Scheme will be allocated teaching time, delivered by an RTD or Teacher of the Deaf (TOD). These teachers may work alongside the classroom teacher to ensure the child is able to access the curriculum. The RTD can discuss the implications of hearing loss within the school or educational environment, support children, and provide learning support work and advice on appropriate teaching strategies.

RTDs and TODs are mostly employed by the two Deaf Educations Centres (Kelston Deaf Education Centre or van Asch Deaf Education Centre). Some RTDs work with students in their mainstream schools. Others teach at the Deaf Education Centres or in Resource Classes.

## Resource Teacher: Learning and Behaviour (RTLb)

RTLb's are qualified specialist teachers who have received extra training to provide advice and guidance to teachers of students at risk of under-achievement due to learning and/or behaviour difficulties. RTLb's are based at a particular school and may work across a group of schools, depending on student needs. The RTLb service is managed by a Lead school which make decisions based on the needs of the students within the cluster.

## Resource Teacher: Vision (RTV)

RTVs are specialist teachers, trained to work with children who are blind or vision-impaired. As some hearing impaired or deaf children also have visual difficulties, they may be seen by an RTV. The RTV will provide guidance and advice to the family and the class teacher to ensure the child's visual learning needs are optimised.

## Social Worker / Family Counsellor

Qualified social workers and family counsellors work with individuals, families and groups who may be experiencing practical, emotional or social problems. They are able to provide short or long term support or counselling and can refer families to a range of community resources.

## Speech-Language Therapist (SLT)

SLTs work closely with families, whānau, and caregivers in education, home, hospital, and community settings. They may be employed by the Ministry of Education or a school Board of Trustees, Ministry of Health (Paediatric Clinics, Child Development teams), Cochlear Implant Programmes, or be in private practice. They provide assistance, therapy, and early intervention for children and adults with communication delays or difficulties in speech, language, voice, fluency, feeding and swallowing, and phonological awareness/literacy skills.

## Teacher of the Deaf (TOD)

See *Resource Teacher: Deaf*.

## Teachers' Aide

Usually employed by the local primary or secondary school. For children with hearing loss, they help with communication, and with language development and curriculum learning. Teachers' aides assist the implementation of the IEP under the teacher's guidance. Some teachers' aides may have received training through the Deaf Education Centres. Teachers ensure the curriculum is accessible in accordance with the child's educational goals. Teachers' aides work alongside the classroom teacher to make sure the child is able to access the curriculum. This includes supporting adaptations to the curriculum and environment, and/or making resources for the student.

# SERVICE PROVIDERS

## Audiology Services

Audiology services for children are usually provided through public hospitals. These services are normally free. Refer to the front of your phone book for contact details of hospital clinics in your area. Some district health boards (DHBs)/hospitals have contracts with private audiologists to provide children's audiology services in the hospital clinic. These services are also normally free.

Some private audiology clinics may provide some audiology services to school-aged children and students. There will usually be a charge for an audiologist's time. These clinics are usually listed in the Yellow Pages of the phone book.

## Cochlear Implant Programmes

(of New Zealand)

These programmes see both adults and children, and promote the use of spoken language and an auditory verbal/oral approach. Every child's individual communication needs are evaluated and the most appropriate method of communication is promoted. Interpreting services are available for the child and family, if required.

There are two service providers. The boundary between the two programmes is an approximate line starting south of New Plymouth, passing north of Ruapehu district, and ending south of Opotiki.

### **Northern Cochlear Implant Programme, Auckland**

(Known as The Hearing House)

251-253 Campbell Rd, Greenlane, Auckland  
PO Box 74022, Greenlane, Auckland 1546

**Phone** 09 579 2333

**Fax** 09 579 2310

**Website** [www.ncip.org.nz](http://www.ncip.org.nz)

**Email** [reception@hearinghouse.co.nz](mailto:reception@hearinghouse.co.nz)

### **Southern Hearing Charitable Trust, Christchurch**

Block 1 Milford Chambers, St. George's Hospital  
249 Papanui Road, Merivale, Christchurch 8014  
NEW ZEALAND

**Phone** 0800 500 405

**Fax** 03 355 3045

**Website** [www.scip.co.nz](http://www.scip.co.nz)

**Email** [reception@scip.co.nz](mailto:reception@scip.co.nz)

## The Hearing House

The Hearing House provides free services to deaf and hearing-impaired children, including Auditory-Verbal Therapy (AVT) and on-site audiology. Its focus is to help deaf children with cochlear implants and/or hearing aids to learn to listen and speak clearly and naturally.

Along with on-site therapy it provides services to deaf and hearing-impaired children living in the upper North Island, including Tele Audio Visual Technology (AVT) which allows children to receive therapy via Skype or video conferencing without the need to travel to Auckland. Most of its graduates attend mainstream school and can speak like their hearing friends by the time they turn five. The Hearing House also offers a counselling service and ECE centre.

The Hearing House provides:

- **Auditory-Verbal Therapy**  
Regularly scheduled one-on-one AVT sessions during which the therapist works with the child and the parent/s for up to an hour every week or fortnight, depending on the child's age and needs.
- **Audiology**  
Children receive audiological services from a qualified audiologist, including hearing tests, specialised cochlear implant services, and hearing aid services for the non-implanted ear.
- **Tele AVT**  
Children who live in remote regions are provided with AVT using internet-based technology such as Skype, or video conference. This allows families of deaf children to benefit from therapy without needing to travel to Auckland.
- **ECE**  
Its ECE is an acoustically designed, purpose-built centre that focuses on developing language skills and taking principles of AVT into a nurturing, language-rich environment where children with a hearing loss learn alongside their hearing peers.
- **Family support**  
Family support and guidance is offered throughout a family's time on The Hearing House programme. This includes home visits, regular parent support groups, and accompanying parents to meetings with medical and social services.

- **Transition to School Programme**

The Hearing House provides a transition-to-school programme to support the parent, child, and new school during a child's transition into a mainstream school. This ensures a child and his or her family receives the support they need to continue language development, and the school has the knowledge and support it needs to assist the child.

- **Training for Professionals**

The AVT certified staff at The Hearing House run training courses, workshops and practicum placements for professionals seeking to further their skills and knowledge in spoken language outcomes.

### Contact:

The Hearing House, 251 Campbell Rd,  
Greenlane, Auckland  
PO Box 74022, Greenlane, Auckland 1546

**Phone** 09 579 2333

**Email** [reception@hearinghouse.co.nz](mailto:reception@hearinghouse.co.nz)



## The Southern Cochlear Implant Programme (SCIP)

The SCIP is the provider-arm of the Southern Hearing Charitable Trust and provides clinical and advisory cochlear implant services to children and adults living in the Southern region of New Zealand. The SCIP catchment area includes those living in the South Island and the lower North Island up as far as Taupo.

The SCIP is jointly funded by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education. It provides separate adult and paediatric cochlear implant services from its base at St. George's Hospital in Christchurch. The range of services provided by the SCIP includes:

- cochlear implant assessment (with specialist Audiology, Habilitation, and ENT professionals) for children from birth to 18 years with severe-profound hearing loss
- cochlear implant surgery and hospital after-care
- audiological management post-implant including switch-on, routine MAPPING, management of speech processors, FM systems, and repairs
- evaluation of post-implant cochlear implant outcomes such as speech perception testing, standardised language assessment, and other spoken-language and educational measures
- habilitation services in clinic including AVT and Auditory-Oral methods
- outreach habilitation in local schools, early childhood education centres, and the child's home, on both a visiting and TeleAVT basis
- liaison with other health and educational professionals as required to meet the child's general communication and educational needs
- training and support of regional and local health and education professionals
- teaching and research.

### Contact:

Block 1 Milford Chambers, St. George's Hospital  
249 Papanui Road, Merivale, Christchurch 8014  
NEW ZEALAND

**Freephone** 0800 500 405

**Phone** 0800 500 405

**Fax** 03 355 3045

**Website** [www.scip.co.nz](http://www.scip.co.nz)

**Email** [reception@scip.co.nz](mailto:reception@scip.co.nz)

## Hearing Therapy Services

Available through LIFE Unlimited, Hearing Therapy Services provide aural rehabilitation services for adults 16 years upwards. These services consist of hearing evaluations, needs assessment, consumer information and advice, communication skills, hearing instrument management, and community information and advice. The services are free through the Ministry of Health to anyone with a degree of hearing loss.

### Contact:

Offices throughout New Zealand via LIFE Unlimited.  
20 Palmerston Street, Box 146, Hamilton.

**Freephone** 0800 008 011

**Fax** 07 834 9982

**Email** [info@life.org.nz](mailto:info@life.org.nz)

**website** [www.life.nzl.org](http://www.life.nzl.org)

## Kelston Deaf Education Centre (KDEC)

KDEC provides services for Deaf and hearing impaired students throughout the northern half of the North Island. Opened in 1958 as a residential special school, the Centre now offers:

- a licensed ECE centre for students from zero to five years of age (which enrolls both hearing and Deaf students)
- services for students from year one to 13 in modern facilities across Auckland
- a two-year life skills Transition Programme for post-secondary year students aged 16 and over
- high quality teaching and learning to Deaf students enrolled at their local school through its Resource Teacher: Deaf network and specialist resource teams.

### Contact:

KDEC, Private Bag 93008, New Lynn, Auckland.

**Phone** 09 827 4859

**TTY** 09 827 9806

**Fax** 09 827 9819

**Website** [www.kdec.school.nz](http://www.kdec.school.nz).

For hearing aid repairs contact the Electronics department at the above numbers or direct on 09 827 9807.

**Websites** [www.kdec.school.nz](http://www.kdec.school.nz)

<http://signsoflifeatkdec.blogspot.com/>

[www.totaravillagekdec.blogspot.com/](http://www.totaravillagekdec.blogspot.com/)

## Marae (Ruamoko Marae)

Situated in the grounds of Kelston Deaf Education Centre, this is the only Deaf Marae in the world.

Māori /Deaf staff and whānau provide support to students and their families in educational planning meetings, hui, Māori Studies programme, carving, Te Reo Māori classes, trips, and advocacy. Te Komiti o Ruamoko Marae includes people from the wider community. 'Nau te rourou, naku te rourou ka ora e te iwi e.' (With your food basket and my food basket together we will feed many).

### Contact:

Ruamoko Marae c/- KDEC,  
Private Bag 93008, New Lynn

**Waea/Fax** 09 827 9812

## Ministry of Education

Special education staff at the Ministry of Education coordinate and provide extra services and support for children with special education needs to enable them to attend their local ECE service or school. The Ministry can assist with adapted programmes or learning environments, specialised equipment or materials. Its Advisors on Deaf Children (AODC) provide support and guidance for children with significant hearing loss and their families, from the time of diagnosis of hearing loss.

The Ministry of Education funds New Zealand Sign Language Interpreters for Deaf parents to enable them to contribute and participate in their children's core education activities. This service is available to parents while their children attend primary, intermediate and secondary school.

Core education activities are:

- formal parent-teacher interviews
- individual education plan meetings
- children's prize giving/special assemblies
- any additional meetings with school staff where any aspect of a child's education is being discussed
- school enrolment meetings.

The Ministry has contracted iSign, through Deaf Aotearoa New Zealand, to provide this service nationally for 2013. The service is funded by the Ministry and there is no charge to parents or schools. Schools and parents can contact iSign directly at [www.iSign.co.nz](http://www.iSign.co.nz) to book a New Zealand Sign Language Interpreter. The iSign website's interpreter booking process explains how to book an interpreter and also provides information about the service in New Zealand Sign Language.

### Contact:

**Phone** 0800 622 222

**Website** [www.minedu.govt.nz](http://www.minedu.govt.nz) (search special education)

## Van Asch Deaf Education Centre

(VADEC)

Based in Christchurch, VADEC supports deaf and hearing-impaired children and students throughout the South Island and lower half of the North Island. It offers ECE, primary, middle, and high school programmes for both day and residential students. Satellite classes operate at Hagley Community College and Wharenui Primary School.

VADEC employs Educational Audiologists, Resource Teachers: Deaf, and Specialist Resource Teachers, and has a hearing aid repair service. Resource Teachers offer support with literacy, speech-language, visual communication, and NZSL. The Specialist Resource Teachers also provide outreach services to parents and educational facilities in mainstream settings in the areas of literacy, speech and language, visual communication, and sign language.

VADEC also offers:

- printed and electronic resources
- professional advice on educational management and programmes
- part-time teacher support programmes and habilitation services
- counselling and guidance services, curriculum development and research support programmes.

Local families can attend the Early Intervention Centre. Families living further away are able to receive early intervention support through ECE Residential Courses.

VADEC provides habilitation services for children with cochlear implants through a Memorandum of Understanding with the Southern Hearing Charitable Trust. Habilitationists are based at the Southern Cochlear Implant Programme at St. George's Hospital. They also provide an outreach service to children's home areas.

The Centre has residential facilities to cater for those students whose overall personal, social and educational needs cannot be met in their home area. These facilities are also used for assessment of students and in-service and training programmes for parents/caregivers and associated support persons.

### Contact:

Van Asch Deaf Education Centre,  
Truro Street, Sumner, Christchurch

**Phone and TTY** 03 326 6009

**Fax** 03 326 5346

**Email** [info@vanasch.school.nz](mailto:info@vanasch.school.nz)

**Website** [www.vanasch.school.nz](http://www.vanasch.school.nz)

# SUPPORT GROUPS AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS

## Accessible

Accessible is the Ministry of Health's contracted provider of Hearing Aid Services. It administers the funding and provision of hearing aids for both the Hearing Aid Funding Scheme (which most children with a hearing loss are eligible for) and the Hearing Aid Subsidy Scheme.

## Beacon New Zealand

Beacon offers a free parent mentoring programme for parents who have recently been given a diagnosis of hearing loss for their child. All parent mentors have completed an intensive training programme on supporting families. They provide first-hand understanding of what it means to be a parent of a child with hearing loss. They provide unbiased support to help families understand their child's hearing loss and the choices they will face. They help link families with other families or local parent support groups. Set up in 2011, Beacon is affiliated with New Zealand Federation of Deaf Children.

### Contact:

Beacon NZ

**Freephone** 0800 535 636

**Email** [beacon.newzealand@gmail.com](mailto:beacon.newzealand@gmail.com)

## Deaf Aotearoa New Zealand (DANZ)

Deaf Aotearoa New Zealand (formerly Deaf Association of NZ Inc.), works with government and other organisations to provide information on life for Deaf New Zealanders, Deaf culture and NZSL. Deaf Aotearoa also represents New Zealand Deaf internationally through the World Federation of the Deaf.

It actively promotes the United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities where the right of the deaf child to access their culture, identity, and sign language is articulated. DANZ also promotes New Zealand Sign Language Week.

DANZ has a range of resources available through its website, including facts sheets, NZSL kits for schools and DVDs, such as *Sign of the Times* and *Sign with your Baby*. A free DVD, *Say that Again*, offers medical professionals guidance when working with Deaf and hearing-impaired clients.

DANZ owns and operates iSign, a national NZSL interpreting agency.

### Contact:

**National Office** PO Box 15770, New Lynn, Auckland, 0640.

**Street address** 1836-1848 Great North Rd, Avondale, Auckland.

**Phone** 09 828 3282

**Fax** 09 828 3235

**Email** [national@deaf.org.nz](mailto:national@deaf.org.nz)

**Website** [www.deaf.org.nz](http://www.deaf.org.nz)

## Deafness Research Foundation

This foundation supports research into the science of hearing impairment and deafness.

### Contact:

Deafness Research Foundation, c/- National Foundation for the Deaf, Box 6726, Auckland.

**Phone** 09 307 2922

**Fax** 09 397 2923

**Email** [drf@nfd.org.nz](mailto:drf@nfd.org.nz)

## Deaf Societies

Clubs throughout New Zealand provide sporting and recreational opportunities for people of all ages who are Deaf, and support Deaf Culture.

### Contacts:

Go to [www.canterburydeafclub.org.nz/new\\_zealand\\_deaf\\_societies.htm](http://www.canterburydeafclub.org.nz/new_zealand_deaf_societies.htm) for details of societies and clubs throughout New Zealand.

## Deaf Studies Research Unit

The Deaf Studies Research Unit (DSRU) is housed within the School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies at Victoria University of Wellington. The DSRU conducts research on topics relating to NZSL, and Deaf people in New Zealand including lexicography, the Deaf community, education, and sign language interpreting. Research is carried out by staff and postgraduate students, and published in books, and academic journals, DSRU occasional publications, and through conference presentations. Staff are available for consultancy in their areas of expertise.

### Courses are offered in two main areas:

- NZSL courses for degree students (DEAF 101, 102, 201)
- a one-year certificated training course for Deaf teachers of NZSL

### Contact:

The Programme Director, Deaf Studies,  
School of Linguistics and Applied

Language Studies, Victoria University,  
PO Box 600, Wellington.

**Phone** 04 463 5626

**Website** [www.victoria.ac.nz/lals/research/projects/DSRU.aspx](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/lals/research/projects/DSRU.aspx)

## “deaf youth together” MAGNET

This is a community and youth-led set of services and programmes for deaf and hearing impaired youth by Deaf Aotearoa and partnership organisations.

See [www.facebook.com/magnetnz](https://www.facebook.com/magnetnz)

If you would like to find out more about their services or programmes, contact the Youth Co-ordinator at Deaf Aotearoa [www.deaf.co.nz](http://www.deaf.co.nz)

## Hearing Association

This is a volunteer organisation with 29 member associations throughout New Zealand. The Association provides hearing tests (in conjunction with LIFE Unlimited) but does not fit hearing aids. It provides a full range of other assistive devices. The Hearing Association runs public education on the prevention of hearing loss and offers support to hearing impaired people, socially and in the workplace. It advocates for the rights, facilities, and services for all people with a hearing loss.

### Contact:

#### National office

C/- P O Box 1274 Palmerston North 4410

**Email** [enquiries@hearing.org.nz](mailto:enquiries@hearing.org.nz)

**Website** [www.hearing.org.nz](http://www.hearing.org.nz) – has locations of the member associations and further information

## National Foundation for the Deaf (NFD)

This incorporated society represents key member groups across the sector including The New Zealand Federation for Deaf Children, Hearing Association of New Zealand, Deafness Research Foundation, New Zealand Society of Otolaryngology, New Zealand Audiological Society, Pindrop Foundation, the Hearing Therapists Association New Zealand, and The Acoustical Society of New Zealand.

### Contact:

National Foundation for the Deaf (NFD),  
PO Box 37729, Parnell, Auckland.

**Phone/TTY** 09 307 2922

**Fax** 09 397 2923

**Toll free** 0800 867 446

**Email** [enquiries@nfd.org.nz](mailto:enquiries@nfd.org.nz)

**website** [www.nfd.org.nz](http://www.nfd.org.nz)

## New Zealand Audiological Society

This is the professional body for audiologists in New Zealand. The Society aims to foster interest and excellence in audiology for the benefit of people with hearing loss and their families.

### Contact:

Box 9724, Newmarket, Auckland.

**Website** [www.audiology.org.nz](http://www.audiology.org.nz)

## NZ Federation for Deaf Children Incorporated (NZFDC)

NZFDC is a national group that advocates for deaf and hearing impaired children and their families. It is made up of parents of these children from throughout the country. NZFDC offers information kits for families of newly diagnosed children, tutor fee assistance, assistive equipment subsidy, annual scholarships for tertiary students, and academic excellence awards for secondary school students.

The national executive committee is elected annually from regional parent groups who work on a voluntary basis. Many of the parent groups have newsletters, organise social events, and can offer resources and friendship for parents or caregivers and children.

### Contact:

**Freephone** 0800 DEAFCHILD (0800 332 324)

**Website** [www.deafchildren.org.nz](http://www.deafchildren.org.nz)

**Facebook** New Zealand Federation for Deaf Children Inc

**Text** 027 214 6901

**Email** [deafchildren@xtra.co.nz](mailto:deafchildren@xtra.co.nz)

## NZ Sign Language Teachers Association (NZSLTA)

This is the professional organisation for NZSL tutors and teachers throughout New Zealand. Formed in 1992, its aim is to promote the teaching of NZSL to the public and to ensure the quality and standards of NZSL teaching. NZSLTA organises workshops and conferences for tutors and teachers so they can fine-tune their teaching skills and develop materials and resources for their classes. It produces monthly newsletters to give information on current issues of sign language teaching.

### Contact:

**Email** [info@nzslta.org.nz](mailto:info@nzslta.org.nz)

**Website** [www.nzslta.org.nz](http://www.nzslta.org.nz)

## Parent to Parent

Parent to Parent is a support and information network for parents of children with special needs. They provide a range of supports, including training for parents, activity days, resources, and a matching service that is provided voluntarily by trained support parents who have a child with the same or similar needs. All of their services are free to families.

### Contact:

**Website** [www.parent2parent.org.nz/](http://www.parent2parent.org.nz/)

## RECOMMENDED READING

From a library, bookstore, or online sources

*Tip: if you can't find a book that is listed here in a library or specialist centre, google the title. It may be available from an online bookseller.*

**The Silent Garden – Raising Your Deaf Child** by Paul Ogden. Revised edition 1996. Gallaudet University Press, Washington, DC

Written by deaf-born Paul Ogden, Professor of Deaf Studies, this American publication provides parents of deaf children with crucial information on the greater possibilities their children have today.

**Brothers & Sisters – A Special Part of Exceptional Families** by Thomas H. Powell and Peggy Ahrenhold Gallagher. 1992. Pub. Paul H. Brooke

**Keys to Raising a Deaf Child** by Virginia Frazier-Maiwald and Lenore M. Williams. January 1999. Barron's Educational Series.

In this American publication from the Barron's Parenting Keys series, two educators offer advice and encouragement on helping children adapt to deafness. It also has good general advice on parenting.

**When Your Child is Deaf – A Guide for Parents** by David M. Luterman, Mark Ross and Antonia Brancia Maxon. York Press: May 1991

Based on decades of work with families of deaf children, it is packed with information, advice and encouragement. Indispensable to parents whose child is newly diagnosed.

**Raising and Educating a Deaf Child** by Marc Marschark. 1998, 2nd edition 2007. Oxford University Press, USA.

This book sets out to answer many of the questions parents ask, while also offering a readable and comprehensive examination of deafness. The author looks at language, social and intellectual development of deaf children. It challenges assumptions about what deaf children can and cannot do.

**The Book of Choice – Support for Parenting a Child Who is Deaf or Hard of Hearing.** Edited by Leeanne Seaver. 2010. [www.handsandvoices.org](http://www.handsandvoices.org)

**The Cochlear Implant – Parents tell their story** by Dorothy O'Brien. 2002. Full Moon Press.

**One Mother's Story. Raising Deaf Children** by Barbara Luetke-Stahlman. 1996. Modern Signs Press Inc.

**The Care and Education of a Deaf Child** by Pamela Knight and Ruth Swanwick. 1999. Multilingual Matters.

**Sometimes I Talk, Sometimes I Sign** by Anne McIntosh. 2000. Communication Connection.

**My Hearing Loss and Me** by John F. Anderson. 2004. Trafford On Demand Publishing.

**Silent Dancer** by Bruce Hlibok. 1981. Messner Publishing.

## Books and resources from the Deaf education centres

### *Kelston Deaf Education Centre*

[www.kdec.school.nz](http://www.kdec.school.nz)

KDEC has a comprehensive library, ranging from books for parents to stories and novels for children. It has locally-produced, reasonably-priced signed and subtitled NZSL DVDs. Catalogue and order forms can be downloaded from [www.kdec.school.nz](http://www.kdec.school.nz) or visit the library between 9am-4pm week days.

### *van Asch Deaf Education Centre*

[www.vanasch.school.nz](http://www.vanasch.school.nz)

VADEC has a catalogue of locally made resources, including action cards, posters, information sheets and kits, as well as signed and subtitled NZSL DVDs. You can request a free catalogue or place an order via email at [library@vanasch.school.nz](mailto:library@vanasch.school.nz) or visit the Library Media Centre between 8.15am-4.45pm week days.

# USEFUL WEBSITES

## *New Zealand*

**[www.accessable.co.nz/hearing.php](http://www.accessable.co.nz/hearing.php)**

Ministry of Health hearing aid services

**[www.audiology.org.nz](http://www.audiology.org.nz)**

New Zealand Audiological Society

**[www.carers.net.nz](http://www.carers.net.nz)**

Information for those who care for disabled family members

**[www.captionmovies.co.nz](http://www.captionmovies.co.nz)**

Information about movies which provide captioning

**[www.deafchildren.org.nz](http://www.deafchildren.org.nz)**

New Zealand Federation for Deaf Children

**[www.deaf.org.nz](http://www.deaf.org.nz)**

Deaf Aotearoa New Zealand

**[www.enable.co.nz](http://www.enable.co.nz)**

Enable assists people with disabilities and their families, employers etc

**[www.ensg.co.nz](http://www.ensg.co.nz)**

The Ear Nurse Specialist service (ENS)

**[www.facebook.com/groups/scip.paed/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/scip.paed/)**

South Cochlea Implant Trust (SCIP) Facebook page

**[www.health.govt.nz/yourhealth-topics/disability-services/hearing-and-vision-services](http://www.health.govt.nz/yourhealth-topics/disability-services/hearing-and-vision-services)**

Ministry of Health services and information

**[www.healthpoint.co.nz](http://www.healthpoint.co.nz)**

Auckland Healthcare Audiology Services NZ

**[www.hearing.org.nz](http://www.hearing.org.nz)**

Hearing Association New Zealand website for assistive devices and advice

**[www.hearinghouse.co.nz](http://www.hearinghouse.co.nz)**

The Hearing House

**[www.isign.co.nz](http://www.isign.co.nz)**

Isign is an online interpreter booking service

**[www.kdec.school.nz](http://www.kdec.school.nz)**

Kelston Deaf Education Centre

**[www.life.nzl.org](http://www.life.nzl.org)**

Life Unlimited Hearing Therapists

**<http://www.nfd.org.nz>**

National Foundation for the Deaf (NZ) resources and information

**[www.nzdrfu.co.nz](http://www.nzdrfu.co.nz)**

New Zealand Deaf Rugby Football Union

**[www.nzsl.co.nz](http://www.nzsl.co.nz)**

NZ Sign Language (redirects to Deaf Aotearoa site)

**<http://nzsl.vuw.ac.nz>**

Online NZSL dictionary

**[www.nzslta.org.nz](http://www.nzslta.org.nz)**

New Zealand Sign Language Teachers Association

**[www.oticon.org.nz](http://www.oticon.org.nz)**

The Oticon Foundation which funds hearing impaired-related projects

**[www.scip.co.nz](http://www.scip.co.nz)**

Southern Cochlear Implant Programme (SCIP)

**[www.slianz.org.nz](http://www.slianz.org.nz)**

Sign Language Interpreters Association of New Zealand

**[www.speechtherapy.org.nz](http://www.speechtherapy.org.nz)**

New Zealand Speech-Language Therapist's Association

**[www.vanasch.school.nz](http://www.vanasch.school.nz)**

Van Asch Deaf Education Centre

### *New Zealand online suppliers of assistive devices and specialised equipment:*

[www.deafquip.co.nz](http://www.deafquip.co.nz)

[www.reidtechnology.co.nz](http://www.reidtechnology.co.nz)

Many hearing aid manufacturers, such as Phonak ([www.phonak.com.nz](http://www.phonak.com.nz)) and Oticon ([www.oticon.org.nz](http://www.oticon.org.nz)), also have excellent websites with information about hearing loss and hearing aids.



*The Ferguson family*

### *International sites*

[www.agbell.org](http://www.agbell.org)

Alexander Graham Bell organisation promotes verbal communications

[www.baha-users-support.com](http://www.baha-users-support.com)

Information for users of hearing aids

[www.deafchild.org](http://www.deafchild.org)

Deaf Child International information for parents and fun for children

[www.deafnessforum.org.au](http://www.deafnessforum.org.au)

Deafness Forum of Australia

[www.deafchildrenaustralia.org.au](http://www.deafchildrenaustralia.org.au)

Deaf Children Australia provides a range of services to families with deaf and hard of hearing children

[www.earcommunity.com](http://www.earcommunity.com)

Parent support for children with hearing loss, Microtia, Atresia

[www.earfoundation.org](http://www.earfoundation.org)

Non-profit organisation to educate about hearing loss

[www.forestbooks.com](http://www.forestbooks.com)

Listings of books and other resources on deafness and deaf issues

[www.handsandvoices.org](http://www.handsandvoices.org)

Supporting families without bias; family stories on video clips

[www.healthyhearing.com](http://www.healthyhearing.com)

Hearing aids information with hearing test, frequently asked questions, news etc

[www.johntracyclinic.org](http://www.johntracyclinic.org)

Parent centre services to young children with a hearing loss

[www.ndcs.org.uk](http://www.ndcs.org.uk)

National Deaf Children's Society (UK) a charity for families

[www.otikids.com](http://www.otikids.com)

Good general information for families and children's activities

[www.wordsforlife.org.uk](http://www.wordsforlife.org.uk)

Search Deaf. Excellent site with learning tips and ideas