

School Hearing Screening Program **Information and Guidelines**

Purpose of the School Hearing Screening Program

- **To identify children who may have undiagnosed permanent or long-term hearing impairment**

Early identification is expected to result in earlier intervention and thus fewer and less severe associated difficulties.

Note: it is not the intent of this program to identify children with temporary hearing loss or middle ear difficulties. Some may be caught through this program, but that is not the focus of this program.

Key Elements of the School Screening Program

Hearing Screening in the school age population involves testing, in an abbreviated way, a large number of children resulting in the ready identification of those who have no indication of significant permanent hearing loss and the identification of those who warrant further assessment because of the possibility of a hearing problem.

- Screening is followed by timely access to full audiological evaluation for children who have a high probability of hearing impairment
- Referrals are made for medical management where required
- In cases where hearing loss is diagnosed by an Audiologist, then steps are taken to address the hearing loss, hearing handicap, habilitative needs, classroom requirements, etc.