

Let's get ready for school.

Setting your child (and their teacher) up for a great year.

A new school year means a new teacher, new classroom, and new questions about how to support your child's hearing and listening needs. A little preparation now can make a big difference in how confidently your child starts the year.

Here are five ways to get ready:

1. Introduce the remote microphone (RM) system early. RM systems can give your child access to thousands more words a day in the classroom. Show the teacher how it works in person, and make sure they understand why wearing it consistently matters.
2. Create a one-page info sheet (or video). A short intro covering your child's hearing loss, devices, and goals gives teachers a quick reference. This can also take the pressure off of you to explain everything in a five-minute hallway conversation.
3. Make the most of Back-to-School Night. Use the time to meet the teacher, scope out the classroom for preferential seating, and agree on where spare batteries and charging stations will live.
4. Build your child's self-advocacy skills. Practice naming their devices, asking for help when something isn't working, and answering classmates' questions. The more comfortable they are talking about their hearing, the more confident they'll be all year.
5. Keep the conversation going all year, not just in August. Regular communication with teachers can keep small issues from becoming big ones.

Now they're ready to take those listening and speaking skills into the classroom.

For the full guide, including printable worksheets and video walkthroughs, visit **Hearing First's Back-to-School Guide**.

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**ADULT AUDIOLOGY SERVICES
HELPING VETERANS HEAR THEIR BEST**

- ★ Comprehensive Hearing Evaluations
- ★ Hearing Aid Services
- ★ Personalized Hearing Solutions

 **ALL EARS!**
HEAR AND BE HEARD



Simply call your local VA clinic and request a Community Care referral. Ask to be referred to Dr. Krista Reyes at All Ears! Center. Approved services are covered by the VA.

Ask the Expert:

Q: I've noticed I need to ask people to repeat themselves more often. Do I really need to get my hearing checked?

Yes, and you're not alone in wondering. Age-related hearing loss can begin much earlier than most people expect: roughly 5% of adults ages 45–54 already have measurable hearing loss, and that jumps to about 10% by ages 55–64, according to NIDCD data. Needing more repeats than usual is often one of the first subtle signs, even before it feels like a "real" problem.

Here's the part that matters most: on average, people wait 7 to 9 years between first noticing hearing difficulty and actually getting fitted with a hearing aid. That gap matters, because untreated hearing loss during those years is associated with greater listening fatigue, social withdrawal, and even cognitive strain, since the brain works harder to fill in missed sounds.

Getting a baseline hearing test now, even if you're not sure it's "serious enough" yet, gives you a clear answer. Call us today to make your appointment. 936-251-3021

**When you choose All Ears! Center for your own hearing health needs,
you directly support children with hearing loss on their journey to
Hear, Be Heard, and Thrive.**

Your Hearing Health -----> Their Future