



Education Bureau

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

AS-04E

Unilateral Hearing Impairment



What is unilateral hearing impairment?

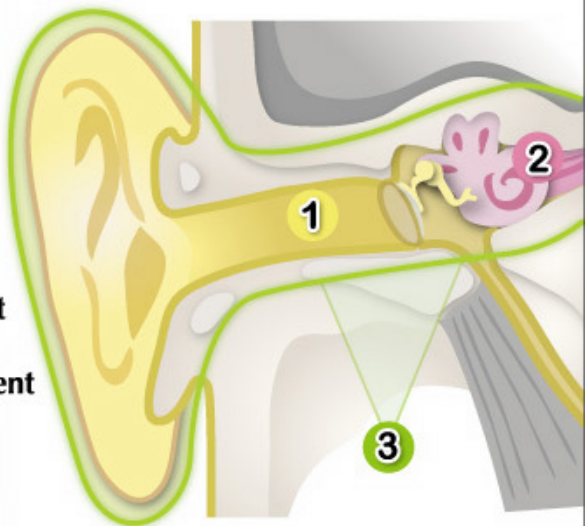
Hearing is normal in one ear, but the other ear suffers impairment of varying degrees.



What are the types of unilateral hearing impairment?

Unilateral hearing impairment can be broadly divided into three types, depending on which part the damage occurs:

- 1 Conductive Hearing Impairment**
- 2 Sensorineural Hearing Impairment**
- 3 Mixed Hearing Impairment**



What difficulties are faced by students with unilateral hearing impairment?

- Have difficulty locating the source of sounds.
- Have trouble understanding faint or distant speech.
- Find it harder than people with normal hearing to hear clearly in a noisy and reverberant environment.
- May have trouble processing speech, if the speaker speaks from the side of the impaired ear.
- Show obvious communication problems during group discussions.

What help can be given to students with unilateral hearing impairment?

Teachers should

- Make suitable seating arrangement to enable them to hear lectures with their normal ears.
- Have these students sit closer to the teachers.
- Provide them with a quiet environment for listening.
- Face these students when speaking and avoid unnecessary movements.
- Arrange suitable seats for them during group discussions and listening lessons.



What help can be given to children with unilateral hearing impairment?

Parents should

- Let their children understand their hearing conditions.
- Teach their children to stand or sit on the right side when talking with others.
- Remind their children to be more watchful of the surroundings when crossing the road and in their daily life, and not to rely solely on hearing.
- Check regularly the hearing ability of their children.
- Remind their children to take good care of their ears and seek professional advice early if needed.



Published by:



Education Bureau

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Audiological Services Unit

Room W242, 2/F, West Block,
EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre,
19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong, Kowloon
Tel. : 3698 3909 Fax : 2762 2293

Room 548,
Ha Kwai Chung Special Education Services Centre
77 Lai Cho Road, Kwai Chung, New Territories
Tel. : 2307 5071 Fax : 2744 5315

All rights reserved. Interested parties may use the text for educational and non-profit-making purposes on the condition that the source is acknowledged.