

Glue Ear

The Facts

- Glue ear occurs when fluid collects in the middle ear space of one or both ears
- It usually happens after a cold or an infection of the ear and throat
- The cells from the lining of the middle ear start to use up the remaining air, reducing the pressure in the middle space, allowing fluid to fill the space
- The fluid can become like glue and prevent the ear drum moving freely, resulting in temporary hearing loss

As many as four out of five children have at least one bout of glue ear before their 4th birthday. A substantial number experience regular, recurring symptoms throughout the primary years.

Useful Information

Defeating Deafness
(Hearing Research Trust)
330-332 Grays Inn Road,
London WC1X 8EE
Tel 020 7833 1733

For further information on this issue please contact:

Training & Development Support Officer for Northern Ireland

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OR

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GENERAL INFORMATION LEAFLET

Basic Facts for Leaders

Glue Ear



Dis
a
Bility

NORTHERN IRELAND

General Features

What are the signs of glue ear?

- Children who are inattentive appearing to hear “only when they want to”
- Children who are talking more loudly than usual or talking less and becoming detached
- Children saying “pardon” or “what” more than usual
- Children experiencing discomfort or pain as a result of an ear infection
- Children who fail to hear sounds/instructions which come from outside their field of vision

Areas of the BB programme which would present difficulty for the boy

Boys with Glue Ear will have difficulty in any programme requiring listening/following verbal instruction.

Anchor Boy
CRAFTS
GAMES
STORY

Junior Section
PE/GAMES
BADGE WORK
FIGURE MARCHING
GROUP WORK

Company Section
PE
DRILL
BADGE CLASSES



Useful Strategies

- Get the child’s attention by calling his name before asking a question or giving an instruction
- Talk face to face when possible
- Speak up but do not shout
- Reduce background noise
- Keep instructions short and simple
- Use usual clues and prompts

Please note these are general strategies

EACH BOY IS UNIQUE

It is therefore important to speak to his parent(s) to gain individual relevant information.