



FACT SHEET

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ABOUT DEPAUL

- DePaul School for Hearing and Speech is Western Pennsylvania's only auditory-oral school. We teach children who are deaf or hard of hearing to listen, to speak and to learn without using sign language.
- At DePaul, we prepare our students to participate and succeed in the hearing world so that they can live in a world without boundaries.
- DePaul currently serves children from birth to age 14, in southwestern Pennsylvania and West Virginia through our home-based and center-based services.
- Children who participate in DePaul's auditory-oral early intervention programs develop speech and language skills on par with their hearing peers; as a result they transition to their neighborhood elementary schools at much younger ages.
- DePaul's team of highly specialized educators includes certified teachers of the deaf, certified speech-language pathologists, educational audiologists, a licensed school psychologist, physical and occupational therapists and state certified parent educators.
- DePaul's classrooms and group learning spaces are equipped with the latest technology in infrared sound field systems to ensure an optimal acoustical signal and promote oral language expression
- DePaul does not charge tuition for academic programs for approved students. DePaul offers a comprehensive curriculum aligned with state and federal standards.



About Our Programs

EARLY INTERVENTION

Parent Infant Program (Home Based) –At DePaul School for Hearing and Speech we understand that parents are a child’s first and most important teachers. Our teachers of the deaf are available to go into the homes of children ages birth to 3 and work with the entire family. We show parents ways to naturally develop the speech and language of their child through talking, listening, and playing. We also provide families with information regarding hearing loss and use of hearing aids or cochlear implants.



Toddler Parent Program (Center-Based) - The toddler program serves children ages 18 to 36 months and focuses on listening and language development. Children receive daily individual speech-language therapy and auditory training sessions with a speech-language pathologist. Children also participate in small group activities with a certified teacher of the deaf.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEPARTMENT

Preschool—Children, ages 3 - 5, attend full-day classes five days per week. Our curriculum facilitates the development of auditory, speech and language skills. Early academic, fine motor, gross motor and personal/social skill development are also emphasized.

Kindergarten— The focus of the Kindergarten program is to engage the whole child in a learning environment that fosters academic readiness skills and provides a foundation for future learning.



PRIMARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL

DePaul’s curriculum is closely aligned with state and national standards in all academic areas. Emphasis is placed on the development of reading and written language skills which best promote academic progress. All students receive social and self advocacy skills to prepare them for success as they move into the mainstream environment.



Clinical Services

AUDIOLOGY / COCHLEAR IMPLANT

DePaul’s two full-time audiologists provide technological support and expertise to our students, ensuring optimal auditory access throughout the school day. Services include on-site cochlear implant programming (“mapping”), fitting and maintenance of FM equipment and loaning/troubleshooting of cochlear implant speech processors and hearing aids. Periodic audiological assessments are performed to monitor each student’s auditory speech perception development and speech reading skills.



SPEECH-LANGUAGE THERAPY

DePaul’s audiologists and speech pathologists work closely with certified teachers of the deaf to develop an integrated program for each student including daily speech therapy sessions.

PHYSICAL & OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY / COUNSELING

Physical and occupational screening, therapy and consultative services are available as needed. An educational psychologist provides on-site testing and counseling.



Additional Services

PARENT EDUCATION & SUPPORT

Auditory-Oral Education of a child with hearing loss involves the child, teacher, therapist, audiologist and parents! Since parent involvement is essential to our students’ success we provide a range of programs to educate and support our parents.