



SDSD's Auditory-Oral program

Located at Fred Assam Elementary in Brandon, SD

SDSD's Auditory-Oral program serves young children with hearing loss, preschool to 5th grade, who are using hearing aids and/or cochlear implants. Students enrolled in the auditory oral platform are expected to develop spoken English as their first language, through the use of methods that emphasize the development of speech, auditory/listening skills, and the use of cochlear implants and/or hearing aids. SDSD can begin working with children and their families through the Outreach Program immediately after a child's hearing loss is diagnosed. On-campus programming may be accessed as early three years of age.

Services offered through this program include:

- * Comprehensive individual programming provides opportunities for students with hearing loss to achieve their full auditory, communicative, academic, and social potential.
- * Programming promotes the ability to listen, and integrates listening skills into daily activities to enhance speech perception, speech discrimination, and speech production.
- * Programming provides a language-rich environment to develop the understanding and expression of spoken language.
- * Classroom teachers have training in auditory-oral methods of education for students with hearing loss. The teachers strive to maintain the most up-to-date and accurate information about successful public school education for students learning to listen and to speak.
- * Speech-Language Pathologists are available for direct therapy as determined appropriate. These Speech-Language Pathologists have specialized training in working with children who are being educated through the auditory-oral methodology.
- * Programming emphasizes the importance of the listening environment through assistive technology (i.e. FM systems and sound field systems) as well as considerations of listening conditions in the classroom.
- * Certified audiologists are available on a regular basis to troubleshoot and monitor students' listening equipment.
- * Low student to teacher ratio to promote each student's fulfillment of his/her potential.

If you are interested in such programming for your child, please contact SDSD via TTY or phone at (605)367-5200, or via e-mail at: sdsd@sdsd.sdbor.edu. You may also wish to visit our website: www.sdsd.sdbor.edu.