

Infant Diagnostic Hearing Tests

John Hunter Children's Hospital Appointment Information



Your baby has been referred for a diagnostic hearing assessment

The Diagnostic Hearing Assessment is a more detailed examination of a baby's hearing, than the SWISH hearing screen. The diagnostic appointment takes approximately two hours and may include a variety of tests.

- **Otoscopy** – examination of the ear canals
- **Tympanometry** – a test of middle ear function to determine if there is fluid behind the ear drum.
- **Otoacoustic Emissions** – a test that indicates if a particular part of the inner ear (Cochlea) is functioning.
- **Auditory Brainstem Response testing** – which is a detailed examination of the response of the hearing nerve to sound.

Preparing for your appointment

Your baby needs to be asleep for the test which can take two to three hours. However we need to prepare the baby before the test, which can be unsettling. Therefore it is helpful to

- Arrive with your baby **awake** and **ready to feed** if possible.
- Bring along anything that you normally use to **settle** your **baby**.
- Please bring a **wrap** and **dummy** if possible. You may not normally use these however they can be useful to settle the baby for the test.
- A **support person** can be helpful for the lengthy appointment.
- If you have **other children** please arrange to have someone else care for them at home. Alternatively, a person over 18 years is able to care for them here. We can show you to the Fairy Garden and Family Room.
- We have changing and feeding facilities within Audiology.

During the appointment

At the beginning of the appointment we will prepare the baby for the test by giving your baby's skin a gentle exfoliation where we need to attach some sensors and also examine the ear. This can unsettle the baby however, you will be given time to resettle.

To ensure an accurate result we

- Perform the test when the baby is completely relaxed.
- Ask you to put your phone into "Flight Mode" or turned off.
- May wrap your baby even if they are not usually wrapped.

Results are available at the end of the appointment. We wait until we have the full result before we are able to discuss them. Please do not be concerned if the test takes a long time or if the Audiologist has to make a lot of adjustments. This is normal for this type of test.

What happens if your baby has a hearing loss?

If your baby is found to have a hearing loss, we are able to refer you to the **Baby Hearing Clinic** here at the JHCH. This clinic is coordinated by our social worker. The clinic will give you access to professionals and services to investigate the hearing loss and management options available for you and your child.

Other information

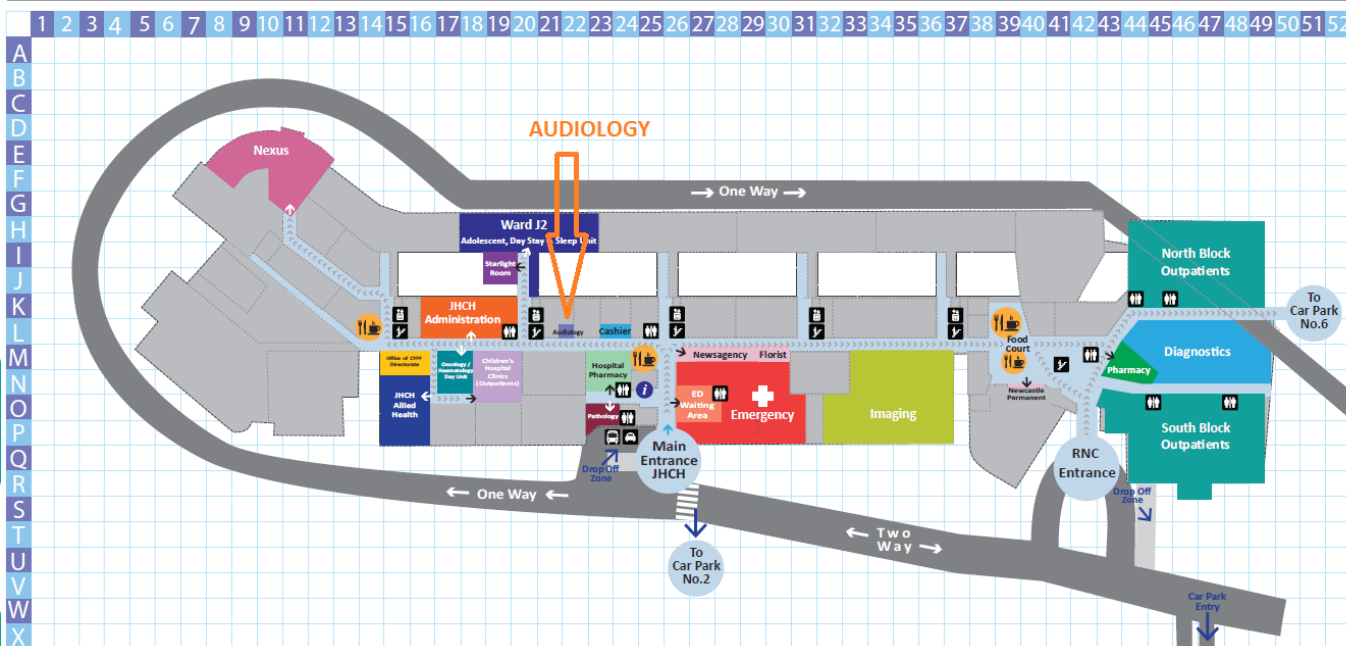
Ronald McDonald House provides accommodation for sick and injured children and their families. The families must live further than 100km and their child needs to be under 18 to be eligible to stay at Ronald McDonald House. For further information or bookings, please call 02 49214733. Bookings are essential. If there is no accommodation available, there is alternative accommodation within a close distance to the John Hunter Children's Hospital. *(NB: Parents under the age of 18 years require someone over the age of 18 years to stay with them at RMH).* Costs are as follows, \$60 per night, or \$43 per night if the child is admitted to John Hunter Children's Hospital. Families referred by the SWISH program may claim this cost through SWISH Travel.

Contacting Audiology

For further information or assistance, please call:

- **Audiology** 02 49213548 (Please leave a message)
- **SWISH** 02 49213555 Mon- Fri 8.30pm to 1.30pm
- www.hnekidshealth.nsw.gov.au/site/audiology

Audiology	L22	Emergency Department	O27	JHCH Allied Health	N16	Nexus	G11	RNC Entrance	Q43
Bus Stop	P23	Florist	M30	JHCH Clinics (Outpatients)	M21	North Block Outpatients	I46	South Block Outpatients	O45
Car Park No.2	U27	Food Court	K39	JHCH Main Entrance	Q26	Office of CYPF Directorate	M16	Starlight Room	J20
Car Park No.6	K51	Hospital Pharmacy	N24	Lifts	K15, K21, K26, K32, K37	Oncology / Haematology Day Unit	M17	Taxi Stand	P24
Cashier	J24	Imaging	M34	Newcastle Permanent	N40	Pathology	O24	Ward J2	H20
Coffee Shops	L14, M25, M39	Information Desk	N25	Newsagency	M27	Toilets	L19, L25, N24, O24, N28, N45, N48, M43, J44, J46		
Doc's Pharmacy	M44	JHCH Administration	L18						
Diagnostics	L45								



Level 2 - Entry Level

John Hunter Children's Hospital
JHCH & John Hunter Hospital

Information

Cafe

Toilets

Lift

Stair well

Bus Stop

Taxi Stand



John Hunter
Children's Hospital
CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES