

Newborn hearing screener

Newborn hearing screeners help and support families with vital information about their babies' hearing.

Working life

All new parents are offered a hearing screening test in the first few weeks after their baby is born.

Working on neonatal [1] units, post-natal wards and in clinics, newborn hearing screeners help identify babies that need testing and explain the screening procedure to parents. They also:?

- make sure the equipment is working
- use equipment to screen babies
- give the parent or guardian the screening results and explain what happens next
- input the results onto a computer system



As a newborn hearing screener, you'll work as part of the audiology team with healthcare scientists [2], neonatal nurses [3], GPs [4] and health visitors [5]. You'll have a lot of contact with parents and their babies.



Entry requirements?

There are no set entry requirements for newborn hearing screeners. Employers expect a good standard of numeracy and literacy and may ask for GCSEs or equivalent. They may ask for a nursery nursing or child-care related qualification, such as NNEB, BTEC or vocational qualification.

Employers usually ask for experience of working with children and families. They may also ask for experience of working with deaf people. This can be either or paid or voluntary work.

You will have a lot of contact with parents and their babies.

Personal characteristics and skills needed

As a newborn hearing screener, you need to be:

- happy to handle newborn babies
- calm and reassuring
- able to explain procedures to parents
- willing to work with people from all walks of life
- able to work as part of a team but use their initiative
- able to follow instructions
- able to use equipment

You'll also need:

- very good communication skills
- good customer care skills
- organisational skills

Training and development?

You will be given the training you need for the job including how to use the equipment, health and safety and child protection. Newborn hearing screeners can join the British Society of Audiology [6] (BSA) as associate members. The BSA offers conferences and meetings where hearing screeners can update their skills and network with others working in the field.

- Pay and conditions

Expand / collapse

Clinical support staff working in the NHS are paid on the Agenda for Change (AfC) [7] pay system. As a newborn hearing screener you will typically be on AfC [8] band 3. As a healthcare professional it may be possible to apply for more senior positions - eg as an assistant practitioner [9], after further training and experience. Newborn hearing screeners work standard hours of around 37.5 a week. Some may work shifts, which could involve nights, early starts, evenings and weekends. Terms and conditions will usually be different for clinical support staff working outside of the NHS.

- Where the role can lead

Expand / collapse

You could become a newborn screening coordinator, supervising and organising the work of a team of screeners.

You could move into other jobs in the wider healthcare team or with the appropriate qualifications for entry to university, you could apply to train as a healthcare professional, such as a midwife [10] or nurse [11] or as an audiologist [2]. [12]

- Job market and vacancies

Expand / collapse

If you're applying for a role either directly in the NHS or in an organisation that provides NHS services, you'll be asked to show how you think the NHS values apply in your everyday work. Find out more about NHS values [13].

Most NHS trusts advertise their vacancies on NHS Jobs [14]. You can find just some of the current vacancies below.

- View Vacancy [15]

Principal Service Lead in paediatric Audiology and Newborn Hearing sc

Brightmet Health centre, Bolton, BL2 6NT

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Salary:

£45,753 - £51,668 pa

■

Type:

Permanent

■

Employer:

Bolton NHS Foundation Trust

■ View Vacancy

- Further information

Expand / collapse

- British Academy of Audiology [16]
- British Society of Audiology [6]
- NHS Newborn Screening Programme [17]

Other roles that may interest you

- Audiology [2]
- Dentist [18]
- Dental nurse [19]
- Dental technician dental technologist [20]

Source URL: <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/wider-healthcare-team/roles-wider-healthcare-team/clinical-support-staff/newborn-hearing-screener>

Links

- [1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Neonatal>
- [2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/physiological-sciences/audiology>
- [3] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing/neonatal-nurse>
- [4] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/general-practice-gp>
- [5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/public-health/health-visitor>
- [6] <http://www.thebsa.org.uk/>
- [7] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/about/careers-nhs/nhs-pay-and-benefits/agenda-change-pay-rates>
- [8] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#AfC>
- [9] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/clinical-support-staff/assistant-practitioner>
- [10] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/midwifery/midwife>
- [11] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing>
- [12] <https://www.healthcareers.lampuat64-3.rroom.net/explore-roles/physiological-sciences/audiology>
- [13] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/about/working-health/nhs-constitution>
- [14] <http://www.jobs.nhs.uk/>
- [15] <https://www.jobs.nhs.uk/xi/vacancy/916144274>
- [16] <http://www.baaudiology.org/>
- [17] <http://www.hearing.screening.nhs.uk>
- [18] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/dental-team/roles-dental-team/dentist>
- [19] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/dental-team/roles-dental-team/dental-nurse>
- [20] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/dental-team/roles-dental-team/dental-techniciandental-technologist>