

# Anne Davies



# AUDIOLOGY



COURSES



## Paediatric Assessment: A Refresher Course

An Introduction / Update for Behavioural Testing in Paediatric Audiology

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2026

## Course Programme



## Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2026

from 8.30	<b>Arrival and Coffee</b>
9.00	Welcome
9.10	Course Introduction
9.30	Paediatric Development
10.35	<b>Break</b>
10.50	History Taking
11.25	Calibration Essentials
12.30	<b>Lunch</b>
1.30	Children's Safeguarding Issues
2.20	Report Writing and Record Keeping
2.55	Visual Reinforcement Audiometry (VRA) Part 1
3.45	<b>Break</b>
4.00	Visual Reinforcement Audiometry (VRA) Part 2
4.50	Play Audiometry
5.20	Questions and Discussion
5.30	<b>End of Day One</b>
6.00	<b>Evening meal, in the hotel restaurant</b>

## Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2026

8.45	<b>Coffee</b>
9.00	Introduction to ANSD and APD
10.05	Speech Discrimination Testing
11.10	<b>Break</b>
11.25	Non-Organic Hearing Loss
12.00	OAE, Tympanometry and Reflexes
12.45	<b>Lunch</b>
1.45	Planning the Session
3.30	<b>Break</b>
3.45	Syndromes and Disorders
5.05	Distraction Testing
5.35	<b>End of Day Two</b>
	<b>No evening meal provided; please make your own arrangements</b>

## Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2026

8.45	<b>Coffee</b>
9.00	Management Decisions
10.05	Communicating with Parents
10.50	<b>Break</b>
11.05	Introduction to Complex Cases
11.55	Case Presentations
12.30	<b>Lunch</b>
1.30	Workshop and Discussion
3.30	Closing Plenary Session
4.00	<b>End of Course</b>



## Course Content

### Paediatric Development

A whistle-stop tour of stages in child development assessed by paediatricians as part of a paediatric history (including aspects of Down syndrome), which have implications for audiology testing.

### History Taking

The essentials of a good history, why and when. Appropriate questions to ask. Example of history taking in clinic.

### Calibration Essentials

The importance of calibration for paediatric audiology specifically.

### Children's Safeguarding Issues

Raising awareness of child protection issues in relation to audiology.

### Report Writing and Record Keeping

Essence and structure of a good report. Why we write them, who to, and what should they inform the recipient about.

### Visual Reinforcement Audiometry (VRA) Part 1

Underlying principles of Visual Reinforcement Audiometry (VRA), room set-up, equipment. The practical procedure of performing VRA in the soundfield.

### Visual Reinforcement Audiometry (VRA) Part 2

The challenges whilst performing VRA; tactics and good practice to obtain reliable results. The use of insert earphones and bone conductor transducers. Interpretation of VRA results.

### Play Audiometry

The requirements of the test, environment, and equipment. The suitability of play audiometry and the techniques, procedure and results. This is supported by a video demonstration.

### Introduction to ANSD and APD

A basic introduction to these conditions, diagnosis and management, case studies.

### Speech Discrimination Testing

The various types of speech tests available. Appropriate tests for developmental age. Examples of live test in a clinic.

### Non-Organic Hearing Loss

A brief overview of assessment options and test strategy, when managing children who present with non-organic hearing loss.

### OAE, Tympanometry and Reflexes

Test protocols, parameters and pitfalls. The difference between standard and high frequency tympanometry testing and results.

### Planning the Session

Why and when do we plan, using information from the referral and history, deciding which tests to use, interactive group work.

### Syndromes and Disorders

A review of causes of deafness including syndromes, infections and other disorders affecting hearing.

### Distraction Testing

Although this test is not now used routinely (and rightly so), the principles of the orienting reflex remain helpful for difficult to test children when VRA is not possible. Criteria for testing, equipment required, frequencies produced, room set-up and pitfalls.

### Management Decisions

Factors to be considered when formulating management plans. Discussion of case histories and management options.

### Communicating with Parents

Communications skills, scenarios and group work on explaining different results.

### Introduction to Complex Cases

Tips and tactics to get the most out of an assessment when testing is more complex or challenging than expected.

### Case Presentations

Examples of when to change how we assess and adapt when faced with more challenging cases in clinic.

### Workshop and Discussion

Hands-on work in small groups.

## Course Faculty

### Dr Greg Nassar

Consultant Clinical Scientist  
Head of Audiology Services  
Trafford Hospitals,  
Manchester University NHS FT, Manchester

### Dr Trevor Foster

Clinical Lead (Paediatric Audiology)  
James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough

### Ed Brown

Independent Audiology Consultant  
Head of Audiology (retired)  
Sunderland

### Louise Hart

Audiologist  
Tracy James Hearing  
Berkshire

### Kathryn Woolley

Head of Audiology (retired)  
Bolton

### Kathryn Lewis

Head of Audiology  
Withington Community Hospital,  
Manchester University NHS FT, Manchester

### Jonathan Proffitt

Senior Calibration Engineer (Audiology)  
Withington Community Hospital,  
Manchester University NHS FT, Manchester

### Dr Marc Spinoza

Community Paediatrician  
Waltham Forest, London

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