



# Speaking from Experience

## Young people & Hearing Impairment

### Transcript for chapter 6 of 7: Support

**Tyson 13, diagnosed age 3:** Well, if I'm having trouble in the class room, I talk to my teachers. If I'm having trouble at home, I talk to my mum or my dad, or my brother, or my sister. It depends who I can't hear properly.

**Cynthia 18, diagnosed as an infant:** My aunty, Edna. She's been helpful to me. She would say, like... She went through the same thing when she was young.

**Georgia 10, diagnosed age 4:** Normally, if you're at work, you'd ask your boss or one of your friends, who'd understand. If you're at school, ask your teacher.

**Cynthia:** Her name's Jennifer. She's helpful. She helped me to catch up on my work, so that I wouldn't be behind, and all that.

**Tamara 10, diagnosed age 1:** Probably the helpers, because they know much about me because they know about, not hearing loss, but about the implant, and the RF also.

**Cynthia:** Well, I want to work with Koorie kids, at schools and all that, so that I can help them.

**Tyson:** I have to tell the teachers that I've lost my hearing, so that they know to check on me, in case I didn't hear them or something like that, talk louder.

**Georgia:** They could speak louder when they don't have a microphone. And ... if the class is really noisy, tell them to quieten down.

**Cynthia:** They've got to speak clearly and speak a bit louder.

**Tyson:** Ways to help could be, don't mumble and stand to stand in front of you when you're talking so they are able to see your mouth. Because, if they don't hear, at least they can lip read and kind of make out what you said. If you're behind them, they can't really tell what you're trying to say to them. If they miss a bit, they have to ask you again.

**Khaled 12, diagnosed as an infant:** My friend tells me what happened when I can't understand what they're saying. I tell them that I can't understand and they say, "Oh, sorry", and then they tell them.

**Cynthia:** She doesn't care if she repeats herself to me. She'll just repeat herself so that I can get what she's saying. She makes sure that I can hear her.

**Khaled:** If you don't have your friend, you're sad when you have to sit by yourself. If you've got your friend, you're good, and so happy.

**Georgia:** I feel kind of good, because I know that they know that it's kind of hard going through a hearing impairment.



**Cynthia:** She gives me good advice and tells me to wear my hearing aid and don't be ashamed to wear my hearing aid, especially out in public. She said, just keep wearing it and don't care what other people say.