

## Frequently Asked Questions

### *What is the cost of the EARS Program?*

All educational and hearing services are provided at no direct cost to the parents.

### *Is transportation provided?*

Transportation may be a service provided to the family.

### *How does the EARS Program work with early intervention services or my child's school district?*

Any services and programs provided are based on the individual needs of the child and the recommendations of the EI/CPSE team.

### *Can the EARS Program provide services for ESL families?*

EARS program staff are trained to meet the diverse needs of ESL families.



For more information, or to arrange a tour, please contact:

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St. Mary's School for the Deaf  
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Buffalo, NY 14214



Thank you to our community partners:



Hear to learn.

Educational and Auditory  
Resources for Sound



### Who We Are

SMSD is a nationally accredited school that has successfully educated children with hearing loss for over 160 years.

The EARS Program teaches children ages birth-five to listen and speak through oral education.

### Our Mission

We use listening and spoken language to foster excellence in communication, academic, and social achievement.

Our program is individualized to meet the needs of each child.

We utilize a family-oriented approach throughout our shared journey.

### Education Goals

We collaborate with the family and school district to develop an educational plan unique to each child.



Whether the goal is mainstreaming, partial mainstreaming or other educational placement, our team will work with each family to meet and exceed academic, social, and emotional goals.

### Intervention Approaches

Our experts use an auditory-verbal therapeutic approach.

Parents are taught to be their child's primary speech and language models.

Listening and spoken language skills are developed through natural communication opportunities:

- Interactive play
- Music
- Field trips
- Family activities

Emphasis is placed on interaction with hearing peers during weekly visits with established community partners.

### Our Highly Qualified Staff

Certified and experienced audiologists, teachers, and speech language pathologists support each child to reach their full potential.

Our program, developed in conjunction with internationally recognized Listening and Spoken Language Specialists and Auditory Verbal Therapy experts, stands apart as a leading program in deaf education.

### Technology

Educational programming includes the use of the latest technology.

Within both classroom and individual therapy, we support our children's ability to be responsible users of educational and personal hearing technology.

### Audiology Services

Complimenting the EARS program, SMSD offers state-of-the-art audiological services including:

- Newborn hearing screenings
- Diagnostic ABR, ASSR, VRA and behavioral audiometry
- Weekly immittance testing
- Pediatric hearing aid fitting and programming
- Pediatric BAHA services
- Pediatric cochlear implant mapping
- Device repair and troubleshooting

