Suggestions

✓ Consider using clear face masks where you have deaf pupils in your classroom. There is currently very limited evidence regarding the effectiveness or safety of transparent face coverings, but they may be effective in reducing the spread of coronavirus. More advice on clear face coverings.

✓ Ensure the deaf pupil is sitting as close as possible (maintaining social distancing) to the speaker to maximise use of their listening aids. Listening will be much more difficult at distance from the speaker and if a student does not have access to speech-reading cues.

✓ Ensure radio aids are being used and utilised at all times.

✓ Ensure your radio aid microphone is working effectively and measures are taken to minimise any feedback or background noise.

✓ Speak clearly and naturally.

✓ Pace your lesson with natural pauses and breaks to support processing.

✓ Repeat and rephrase contributions from other pupils.

✓ Check understanding of deaf students regularly, including before they start a new task.

✓ Full transcripts to be made available to deaf pupils, as well as copies of powerpoint presentations with notes reflecting key concepts / key words to understand and learn

✓ Offer pre and post teaching sessions to deaf pupils with access to transcripts, speech-reading in a well ventilated and spacious room to allow for social distancing to remove face coverings.

✓ Provide a well-ventilated and spacious room for deaf pupils and their peers to use without the use of face coverings for break and lunch times to allow for access to speech-reading and socialisation. This space could also be offered for group work/tasks in lesson time.

✓ Teachers to allow deaf pupils to have access to the use of technology in the classroom to use live transcribing apps (i.e. Otter AI).