Tips for Integrating a Student with a Hearing Loss in a "720 Lesson"

A well-planned lesson based on the "720 program" creates an "educational hum", as the class works in the format of a learning center. During the lesson several students work with their teacher, while others study in peer groups or use computers. For hard-of-hearing students, being able to hear their teacher and their peers in such a lesson becomes more challenging – the classroom is full of more competing speech sounds, more scraping of chairs and rustling of papers than usual.

Here are some **tips** to help the hard of hearing student follow and participate in the lesson:

1. When the student is in the group working with the teacher, have the student sit next to the teacher or directly facing the teacher (ask the student which is better for him / her).

2. When the student is in a group with other students, have the student sit next to the note taker, so that she /he can also look at the written words.

3. Do not assign the student with a hearing loss to be the note taker.

4. Write instructions on the board, or have a written instruction sheet, in order to ensure complete access to the instructions.

The following tip is only relevant for those students who wear hearing aids or who have cochlear implants:

5. When working with the software, permit the student to use a device that connects to Bluetooth. Students hear much better when the sound is transmitted directly from a device to their hearing aid / cochlear implant. External headphones often don't deliver a clear enough sound, particularly as they might not be high quality headphones.