



## CHECKLIST:

# Strategies For Successful Transitions

Transitions can be an exciting time for you and your child if you plan ahead and stay aware of your child's listening needs. Each new transition gives your child the opportunity to progress in listening and spoken language so they can engage in interactions with their hearing friends. You'll choose the best strategies based on the type of transition your child will experience.

### PLAN AHEAD

- Think about your child's needs and the specific place your child will attend. Will it be for a long period of time or just once? This will help you decide which strategies will be most helpful.

### SHARE ABOUT YOUR CHILD

- Prepare a short one-page explanation of your child's hearing loss and the specific information you want someone to know about your child. Include any tips you have for the caregiver that will make listening and communication easier.

### SHARE ABOUT THE HEARING DEVICE

- Prepare a quick kit and guide for your child's hearing device. This should include batteries, a holder for the device(s), and a card that describes how to change the batteries, turn the device on and off, and other key information about the device. This information is available from your pediatric audiologist, LSL early interventionist, or device manufacturer.

### MEET THE CAREGIVER/TEACHER

- Arrange for you and your child to meet with the caregiver/teacher. Show them how to put the devices on your child and take them off. It's also helpful if they practice doing this with your child while you are present. You want the caregiver/teacher to be very comfortable handling the device so they are more likely to put the device back on if it's removed.

### ARRIVE EARLY TO NEW EXPERIENCES

- Plan to arrive early to the location with your child so there will be plenty of time to help your child adjust to the environment, ask and answer questions, and locate the place your child's equipment will be stored. Review information about the hearing devices as needed.

### PREPARE YOUR CHILD

- As your child grows and develops independence, they'll be able to take care of their hearing devices and communicate their needs. Teach them to talk with their teachers, coaches, and friends about their hearing loss and hearing devices. Your child will need to be able to tell an adult when they're having trouble listening or when their batteries aren't working. When they're little, you'll be their voice. However, before you realize it, they'll learn to speak for themselves.

### SHARE FOR SUPPORT

- Share your feelings about the transition with other parents or your LSL professional. It's common for feelings about your child's hearing loss to come back around when your child is moving on to a new experience. It may be helpful to talk about these new experiences with someone else for support.