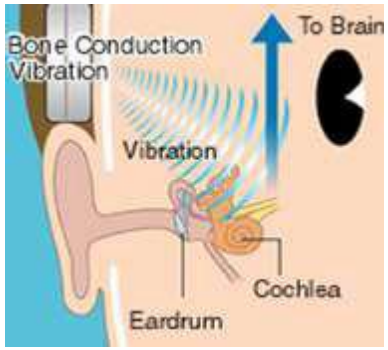
Bone Conduction Hearing Aids (BCHA) on soft band or hard band





What is a bone conduction aid?
There are a number of bone conduction hearing aid devices. These devices are held in place by a soft material band. All of these work in the same way. They transmit the sound through the bone of the skull directly to the cochlea, bypassing the outer and middle ear. When the child is older they may have an operation to surgically attach an abutment or magnet to their skull so that they can be fitted with a Bone Anchored Hearing Aid (BAHA).





The device:
- is for those with a conductive hearing loss (there are problems within the outer and middle ear)
- amplifies and transmits sounds – especially speech sounds BUT also ALL unwanted background noise
- does NOT restore normal hearing
- is most effective at less than one metre



Daily check list
- Check the device is working – when it is not on the child it will make a screeching sound and vibrate in your hand when it is picking up sound.
- Ensure the device is positioned against the mastoid bone (the bone behind the back of the ear)
- For young children the device can be positioned on another bony location on the skull, avoiding the temple and centre of the forehead.
- Ensure the band is not too tight. Tighten the softband until it is close fitting to ensure effective sound transmission, however make sure your finger can fit between the soft band and the skull.
- A safety line can be attached from the device to the child's clothing by a clip to ensure it is not lost if it detaches from the soft band.

How to change the battery.
- Take the device and open the battery door positioned at the bottom of the device
- Tip out the old battery and dispose of this appropriately
- Take a new battery from the pack and remove the sticker.
- Position the battery into the battery compartment of the device
- Close the door
- Wait for the device to vibrate in your hand and listen for a screeching sound
- Replace it onto the child's head via the band