

Remote Microphone Systems in the Classroom

What is a Remote Microphone System (RMS)?

- A remote microphone system (RMS) is a way for students to hear their teacher (or another speaker) better in a classroom setting.
- An RMS consists of a microphone (usually worn by the teacher) that wirelessly transmits the teacher's voice directly to a student wearing hearing aids or to a speaker that broadcasts the teacher's voice to the classroom.



Why use a Remote Microphone System in the at school?

- Students with hearing loss need a higher signal-to-noise ratio in the classroom to understand speech clearly, compared to their peers with normal hearing, even with the use of properly fitted amplification (hearing aids).
- Using an RMS compensates for the 3 main challenges a student with hearing loss faces in the classroom: background noise, distance, and reverberation (echo).
- An RMS can ensure that the teacher's voice is constant and clear, above the background noise, even if the teacher looks away from the student or is at a distance from the student.
- Hearing aids alone do not always provide a clear signal in noisy environments or when there is distance between the student and the speaker.
- Personal RMS can go with the student to the gym, outside and even on field trips (when able to remain secure) to ensure optimal hearing for students in noisy environments.

How does a Remote Microphone System work?

- There is a microphone worn by the teacher (usually clipped on to the teacher's shirt or hanging around the teacher's neck).
- The signal from the microphone is transmitted wirelessly to a receiver that is either built inside the student's hearing aid, plugged into the hearing aid, or worn around the student's neck and then transmitted wirelessly to the student's hearing aid.
- There are a few different types of RMS available and your child's Audiologist will typically recommend, program and verify the RMS prior to using it in the classroom.

