Useful information for students with hearing loss

The university has infrared hearing systems installed in its central teaching rooms.

How does an infrared system work?
An infrared system is similar to a remote control and a television. A transmitter sends speech or music to a receiver using invisible infrared light waves.

How is an infrared system helpful?
You only hear what the transmitter picks up, so you usually receive clear speech with little or no background noise.

How does an infrared system help a student with a hearing loss?
Cuts out unwanted background noise
It can be used by those without hearing aids by using ear phones
Can be used by anyone with a compatible hearing aid
Does not pick up unwanted radio signals like you might with an FM system
If you want to listen through hearing aids, you can wear a neck loop and you can have more privacy with an infrared system.
No one can hear what you are listening to from outside the room because infrared signals cannot travel through walls.

How do I make use of the hearing system in my teaching session?
There should be the following sign in the room indicating that the system is available:

If you have hearing loss you can loan a neck loop that works with our infra-red hearing system. The neck loop can be used in conjunction with your hearing aids or to boost the sound via headphones.

Neck loops can be loaned on a yearly basis. For further information please email our Assistive Technology Specialist at atsupport@liverpool.ac.uk

Tips when using the hearing system

- **Ensure your hearing aid has a T-setting.** A good hearing system will give you a great listening experience – and is likely to make it easier and more relaxing to hear even if you have the best available hearing aids.

- **Is the problem your hearing aid?** If you get a poor experience, check a few other hearing loops/systems to see if the problem might be your hearing aid.

- **Don’t have a T-setting?** Most digital hearing aids have this capability but you sometimes have to ask/remind your hearing aid provider to activate it. It is typically quick and easy to do.
What if I use a cochlear implant, can I use a hearing system?
This will depend upon the model of processor you wear – ask the cochlear implant team and they can tell you the specific features for your implant.

What do I do if I cannot seem to hear using the hearing system provided?
If you cannot hear anything from the hearing system provided you should inform a member of staff who will then get the system checked.