

MELLAN
TVÅ
VÄRLDAR

Family and friends

Jiro

After school, Jiro goes straight home. He doesn't usually hang out with friends, but likes to spend time with his large family. Even back in preschool, the staff noticed that he preferred to hang out with his older hearing sister who went to the same place – or with adults. Now in middle school, he is still closest to his sister and his little brother, who is hard of hearing. At home they usually play video games or go outside to play and sometimes build dens. Jiro feels safe with his siblings and he can always find fun things to do with them. He goes to Kristinaskolan where everyone is deaf or hard of hearing. This has created a strong community but Jiro tends to stay on the fringes. He feels like he hasn't really learned how to hang out with friends, but prefers to sit and do schoolwork on his own.



Family and friends



According to the Swedish Social Services Act (2001:453), the social services authorities must offer support to make life easier for individuals who care for a relative with a disability.



Information about support for family and friends is available from the Swedish National Family Care Competence Centre.



Support associations such as DHB are there for families with children who are deaf, hard of hearing or have a language disorder.



Additional cost compensation can be applied for through the Swedish Social Insurance Agency to cover expenses related to a child's or adult's disability.



A care allowance can also be applied for through the Swedish Social Insurance Agency for children and young people, for the extra work with care, assistance and supervision that arises due to the disability.



Parents have the right to claim VAB, child care, from the Swedish Social Insurance Agency instead of parental benefit for care visits that are linked to the child's disability. The right applies to parents with children aged 0–11 who need to take time off work to take their children to visit a doctor.



Tips for good communication

Information channels

- Important information should always be provided in writing.
- If the sound environment is poor, write down questions and answers.
- Try using your phone's speech-to-text features or chat tools to support the conversation.



Environment

- Make sure the location has good lighting and acoustics.
- Minimise background noise by, for example, closing windows and doors.
- Reduce visual impact, for instance by storing materials in covered cabinets and displaying all relevant information on a designated part of the walls.
- Round tables are preferable, where everyone can see everyone else.

Clarity

- When talking, stand close to and turn your face towards the hard of hearing person.
- Please ask what you can do to facilitate the conversation. Different people may have differing wishes and requirements.
- Don't cover your mouth and remember to speak clearly so that your lips can be read.
- If necessary, repeat what was said or use different words if the other person does not understand.
- In a meeting with several people, speak one at a time and preferably at a calm conversational pace.

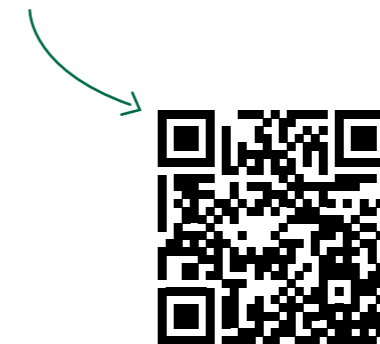


Between Two Worlds tells the story of what it's like to be young and hard of hearing and to feel caught between the hearing world and the sign language community. How it affects people's lives.

The aim is to empower young hard of hearing people and to increase understanding among family members and professionals.

Focus groups comprising young people with hearing loss and other experts have helped gather valuable experience and insights. This has resulted in a book, brochures, lectures, recorded talks and informational videos based on various themes on the subject.

Use the QR code to access all materials:



Between two worlds

**With support from the Swedish Inheritance Fund,
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National DHB Association

The Swedish National Association DHB is a family organisation for families with children and young people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a language disorder. We create community, spread knowledge and fight for everyone's right to participation.

To get in touch, email kansliet@dhb.se

