



## What to look for when choosing an MP3 audio system

Not everyone is familiar with MP3 technology and until recently, MP3 players were not frequently used in schools or nurseries. If you are thinking about acquiring a system or MP3 player to use with your children, then here are a few things to look out for when choosing.

- Just how robust are the headsets? If there are any adjustable or moving parts this will jeopardise the robustness and durability of the headsets.
- Can any parts be pulled off or removed?
- Are the foam pads an integral part of the headset? If not, how easily can the foam pads be removed?
- Does the system have multiple function modes?
- Can the function buttons be disabled? If not, your children will still be able to move between tracks and not focus on the listening activity.
- Do the headsets play in group mode with a remote control?
- Can you vary the number of headsets in group mode or do they all have to be included?
- Does the remote control use a radio frequency link rather than infra red? Infra red will limit the range of use.
- Does the automatic play feature have a rewind feature? If not, your children will miss parts of the track when play is resumed.
- Does the system have supporting software? If not, you will have to create your own solution which may not be easily shared within your setting.
- Does the system offer a solution for purchasing MP3 downloads? MP3 players can only play MP3 tracks. They are not compatible with audio CDs. These would have to be converted to MP3 format first and this is illegal under current UK law.
- How easily can children put their own tracks on the MP3 players?
- Have the players been tested to toy safety standards?
- Has the volume level been capped to EU recommendations?
- Is there free technical support available?
- How long does the warranty last?
- Is there a record feature?
- Can the MP3 players be switch controlled?



StoryPhones specialise in the development and use of MP3 players. If you have any other questions which have not been answered above, please get in touch and we will be happy to chat. You can contact us on 0845 652 0906 or email [info@ameeca.co.uk](mailto:info@ameeca.co.uk)