

Introduction to Deaf Awareness and BSL

This course is a fantastic starting point for anyone with an interest in supporting or working with deaf or deafblind people. The sessions are fun and interactive during which time, learners will develop an understanding of the barriers as well as the basics of communication using British Sign Language. You will start to discover the history behind some gestures and ways to be more inclusive.

Start Date: 02 October 2026
Start Time: 10:00
Lessons: 10
Weeks: 10
Hours: 20.00

Venue

Medway Learning and Skills Hub
Unit 2
Britton Farm Street
ME7 1GX

What will I learn on this course?

Learners will:

1. Explore the barriers experienced by deaf people and investigate ways to overcome them.
2. Identify issues that affect communication and things to consider when communicating with deaf people.
3. Learn and practice the British Sign Language alphabet and numbers, and use some key gestures such as greetings.

Is this course suitable for me?

This course is suitable for anyone who is interested in supporting or working with deaf or deafblind people.

Is there anything I need to know about the course?

No prior signing skills or experience required as all learners will be taught the skills required and support throughout their learning.

- Learners are fully supported to achieve their goals and we strive to be an inclusive provider
- Learners need to be aware that there will be some homework set and individual research to undertake as part of their personal development

Will there be additional costs?

There are no additional costs. However, there may be a class excursion to a local venue for which you may like to bring money with you.

There are also vending machines at the Gillingham Centre and you may like to bring some money with you for tea or coffee during the break.

What could I go on to do after this course?

If you wish to explore your learning, work or career options, you can speak to a fully trained careers advisor on 0800 100 900. <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk>

If you need further advice please telephone 01634 338400.

Attendance Policy

In order to get the most out of your course you will need to attend as many sessions as possible. We recommend at least 90%. If you do have a holiday booked during term time please let the tutor know in advance so that we can help you catch up on missed sessions and ensure that you still achieve the course outcomes. If you are unavoidably ill or unable to attend please contact 01634 338400 so that we can let your tutor know, and so they can send you any work you may have missed.

How are digital skills used and enhanced on this course

You may have the opportunity to use computers with internet access in class time. You may need to use the internet for some or all of your course - using a mobile phone, tablet or computer. The tutor will speak to you about useful websites, apps and online resources which you may be asked to use for homework.

Health and Safety

We try to make sure your class is as safe as possible. If you are worried about anything, please talk to your tutor or our Safeguarding Officer.