

Course Information Sheet

British Sign Language Introduction

Introduction

A fun course like no other. A chance to learn how to communicate without using your voice. You will also have the opportunity to learn some basic Deaf awareness.

What are the course entry requirements?

No entry requirements and no previous experience is necessary. It is important that participants are willing to take personal responsibility for their learning by the disposing of inhibitions towards using their hands, facial expression and body language to communicate - not their voices. This course will suit you if you like to meet people, want to communicate with Deaf people at work or socially, or like learning a language in general.

How long is the course?

5 weeks, 3 hours per session, 15 guided learning hours
6 weeks, 2.5 hours per session, 15 guided learning hours
3 weeks, 5 hours per session, 15 guided learning hours

What will the course involve?

Learning to communicate in BSL at a basic level. Understanding how to use your face and body and BSL Syntax (Order of signs). You will learn some basic Deaf Awareness tips.

You will learn sign vocabulary linked to certain topics e.g. family, appearance, clothes, colours, size, sport, interests, animals, numbers, money, time, age, careers, weather, transport, emotions, directions, food & emergency services and be able to converse all of these topics.

How will I be learning?

90% of your learning will be practical hands on signing through structured activities set by your tutor. Activities will be completed in groups, individually and in pairs. Activities include signing about specific topics learnt, conversation sessions, storytelling and games linked to BSL production and comprehension. 10% reading, watching videos and translating English to British Sign Language (BSL).

Homework will be set every week. It will consist of one of the following and should take you 15-20 minutes

- Reading information and recapping work done in class
- Preparing a signed piece on a specific topic
- Accessing the course on the internet <http://www.lancashireadultlearning.net>
- Translating English to BSL

What equipment will I need?

A file to keep handouts in, pen & paper. Having access the internet is beneficial but not a necessity. Textbooks and resources will be recommended, but do not have to be purchased.

How will I know if I am making progress?

Participants will complete a learning portfolio at the start of the course and can refer to it to measure their own progress. Throughout the course during the activities you will be able to assess your own progress. Feedback is given every week on homework and work done in class. You will have some in class assessments and will receive feedback on these.

What course work will I be expected to complete?

All course work is practical and completed in class.

What can I expect to learn from this course?

- Finger spelling the names of self & others
- Introduce yourself, exchange personal information.
- Generate simple signed phrases using basic BSL grammar (topic, comment)
- Recognize simple signs / short phrases expressed in sign
- Asking for repetition & clarification.
- Identify and use a range of simple, commonly used question forms
- Access BSL resources to enable independent study

Will I need to cover anything in addition to the course fee?

There are no additional costs.

What other training programmes and progression opportunities are there?

Communicating with Deaf people; British Sign Language Level 1

If you require in-depth advice on progression opportunities or guidance on career choices please contact our Information Advice and Guidance Officers on 0845 600 1331. For general information about other courses, contact us on the same number or check out the website www.lancashire.gov.uk/adultlearning