



B:ID SERVICES

British Sign Language (BSL) Fingerspelling Alphabet



Why not join one of our Deaf Awareness or
British Sign Language courses?
Tel 0121 246 6100 **Mobile/Text** 07872 403785
Email info@bid.org.uk **Website** www.bid.org.uk

Communicating with deaf people

It isn't as hard as you might think. Just remember that every deaf person has different levels of deafness and ways of communicating.

Find out how they communicate. Some deaf people speak, some use sign language and some use both.

Get their attention. Try waving or tapping their shoulder lightly.

Face them when you're talking. Make sure they can see your face clearly.

Make lipreading easy. Speak clearly and naturally with your mouth uncovered. If possible, stand with your face to the light.

Use gestures or visual cues. Don't be shy about using gestures to support your communication.

Make the conversation topic clear. Let them know if it changes.

Speak one at a time. Group conversations can be difficult for deaf people.

Reduce background noise. Hearing aids amplify all noises, so background noises such as the radio can make it difficult for them to listen.

Don't give up! If one method doesn't work, improvise! You can try writing your message down or texting on your phone.



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Deaf Cultural Centre, Ladywood Road, Birmingham, B16 8SZ.

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