

Being Deaf Aware

by Alexis Jayne, Paige, Lucy and Olivia



How Can We Communicate?



phone



speaking

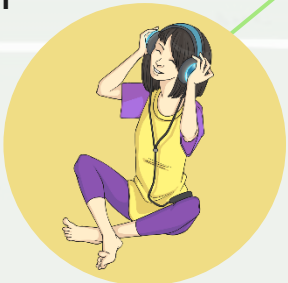


computer

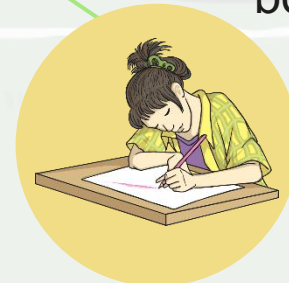
How many different ways can we communicate with others?



body language

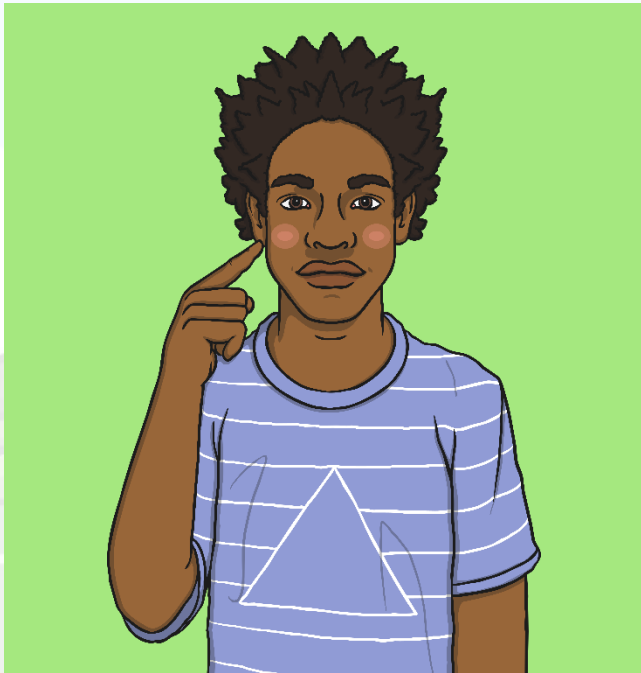


listening



writing

How Can We Communicate with Others?



We can communicate in many different ways.

We use our senses to help us communicate with others. Some people may have difficulty communicating if one or more of their senses are lost such as sight and hearing.

What Does It Mean to Be Deaf?



Deafness and hearing loss can mean different things to different people. People use different words and terms to describe how they view their own deafness or hearing loss.

The general term 'deaf people' can be used to describe people with any degree of hearing loss.

Being deaf can mean:

- Experiencing difficulty with being able to hear.
- Not being able to hear certain sounds – high pitch, low pitch, sounds nearby or far away.

What Does It Mean to Be Deaf?

There can be different degrees or levels of deafness:

Mildly deaf - People may find it difficult to follow speech in noisy situations and may need to use hearing aids.

Moderately deaf - People use hearing aids.

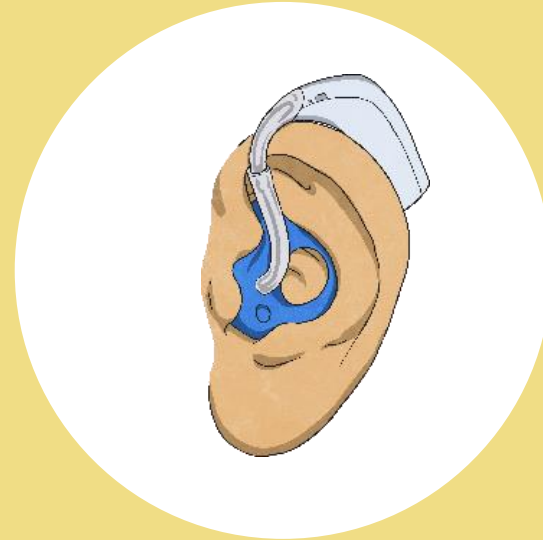
Severely deaf - People will need hearing aids and may rely on lip reading or sign language to communicate.

Profoundly deaf – People may have cochlear implants or hearing aids and may choose to use sign language as their preferred method of communication.

Facts and Figures



1 in 6 people in the UK are affected by hearing loss.



Around 2 million people in the UK have hearing aids - about 800,000 are severely or profoundly deaf.

What Causes Deafness?



The ear has two functions:

hearing

balance

The ear has three parts, the outer ear, the middle ear and the inner ear. If something is not working in one of these parts of the ear then it can cause deafness

How Do Deaf People Communicate?

People who are deaf can communicate in many different ways such as using:



Hearing aids, bone anchored hearing aids, induction loops, cochlear implants



Sign language, fingerspelling



Lip reading



Facial expressions and gestures



Written language, e.g. Email, text, letter.

British Sign Language (BSL)

British Sign Language (BSL) is the preferred language of over 70 000 people in the UK. BSL has its own grammar and word order that is different to the English language.

There are other sign systems, such as Sign Supported English (SSE) which use signs from BSL but are in the English word order.

Sign language is not a universal language and varies between countries. There are even differences in sign language between cities and regions, like accents in spoken language! Colours and numbers are a good example of where there are several signs that could be used for the same word!



How Can Having a Barrier to Communication Make You Feel?

Adults and children who are deaf can face communication barriers which can make people...



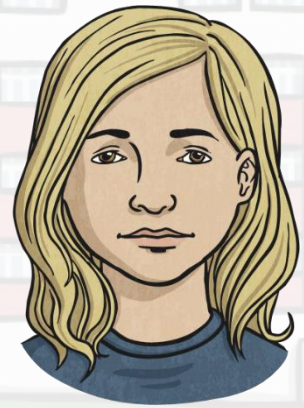
feel isolated

feel excluded

feel low or sad

have a lack of confidence

worry about things they have missed

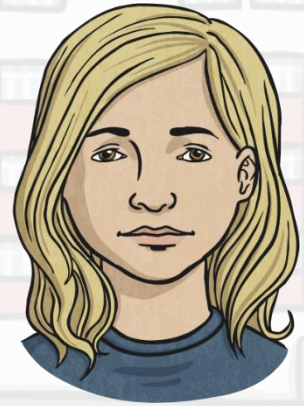


We can help our friends!

We have some simple rules!

Communicating with a Deaf Person

Make sure you are facing your friend

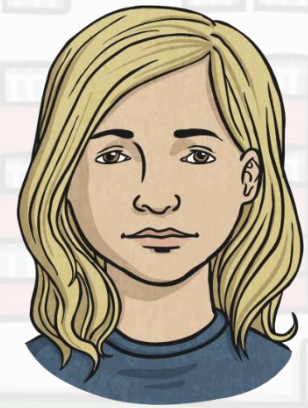


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Communicating with a Deaf Person

Don't turn away and
carry on speaking



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Communicating with a Deaf Person

Speak normally and
don't shout!
Shouting distorts
your voice

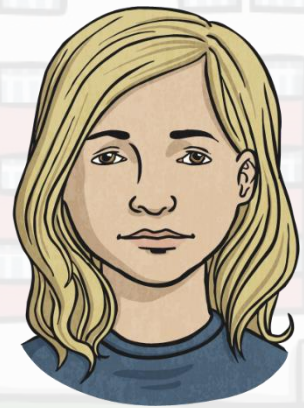


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Communicating with a Deaf Person

Repeat yourself if
you need to



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Communicating with a Deaf Person

Don't give up



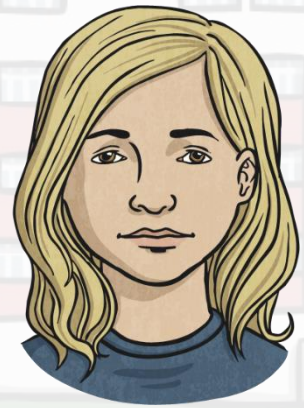
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Communicating with a Deaf Person



This one is very important!
Never say,
“Oh it doesn’t
matter!”

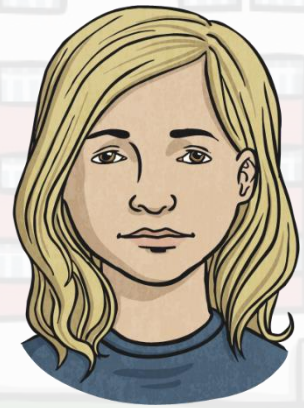


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Communicating with a Deaf Person

You could write it
down or draw a
picture



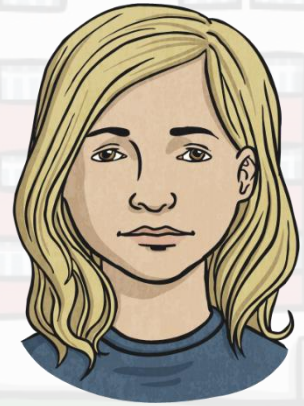
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Communicating with a Deaf Person



People with a hearing loss can do things everyone else can do... except hear!



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Thank you for Listening!

Alexis Jayne, Paige, Lucy and Olivia

