

# Dream Big



Impact Report  
2018/19



**Our vision is of a  
world without barriers  
for every deaf child.**



# Welcome

Childhood is all about adventure, learning and fun, and it shouldn't be any different for a deaf child. With the right support there should be no barriers to what a deaf child can experience and achieve.

There are more than 50,000 deaf children in the UK and more than 32 million deaf children worldwide. It's important to encourage them – and their families – to dream big. Whether they want to excel in their exams, learn to drive, travel the world or get a great job, being deaf should never hold them back.

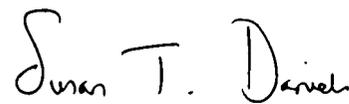
But councils are reducing the support deaf pupils rely on at school, and they aren't getting careers advice that meets their needs. As a result, deaf young people are falling behind in education and are more likely to be unemployed.

Deaf children need support now more than ever, so we're here for them every step of the way. We build young people's confidence, challenge decision-makers, and make sure every family can support their child's dreams.

This report is all about children with big ambitions, who aspire to do everything from coaching athletes to becoming prime minister. We're celebrating their achievements, and some of the things we're most proud of too. It's been an amazing year, where we've changed policy on studying British Sign Language, challenged local authorities to provide essential technology and smashed targets for funded projects.

Also, we're going to be honest with you – our amazing supporters – about things that didn't go as planned. We pledge to carry on learning – and dreaming big – just like the amazing deaf children you're about to meet.

Finally I'd like to thank you for the difference you make to deaf children's lives. With your support, we're breaking down barriers for deaf children every day.



**Susan Daniels OBE**  
Chief Executive, National Deaf Children's Society



**“With the right support there are no barriers to what a deaf child can achieve.”**



**“She’s determined and nothing need stand in her way.”**

– Mum Ros and Lois (3)



**“He wants to become a doctor.”**

– Dad Kange and Sharif (14)



**“I might get the keys to 10 Downing Street one day!”**

– Daniel (13)



**“I want to be an actor, director or choreographer.”**

– Ella (14)



**“His deafness won’t be a barrier.”**

– Mum Nicola and Theo (6)



**“I have my sights set on working with athletes.”**

– Lauren (23)



**“I want to study chemistry or renewable energy engineering.”**

- Zahra (17)

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**“I want to do something with cars.”**

- Rhodri (14)

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**“I dream of opening my own beauty parlour.”**

- Asgori (20)

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**When families find out their child is deaf, often the first thing they worry about is the future. They may fear their child won't be able to communicate, make friends, pass exams or get a job. Some parents will be shocked by the news and feel lost and alone.**

We know that with the right support deaf children can achieve the same as their hearing peers. And we want to make sure families know this too. That's why we've continued to build on the support we offer in that critical early period, including our Freephone Helpline, information resources and events. Through our Helpline we answered 8,170 enquiries over the phone, email and live chat.

We also offer support through our events programme, which includes weekends for families whose children have recently been diagnosed as deaf. Families come together to share experiences and learn from professionals including audiologists, speech and language therapists and education advisers. There are also opportunities to meet deaf young people and see what they've achieved. Families leave our events knowing much more about deafness and believing in their child's potential. 82% said they now better understood their child's hearing loss.



**82% of parents better understood their child's deafness.**

Ros is mum to Lois (3), who is profoundly deaf. She feels more positive about the future after attending one of our events.

“When we found out Lois was deaf, it felt like a punch to the heart. It was the hardest thing, sitting there breastfeeding her and crying, trying to take it in.

We didn’t know anyone who was deaf – it was completely alien to us. We wondered if Lois would talk or read, if she’d be able to get an education or a job.

Then Lois’s speech therapist told us about the National Deaf Children’s Society, and their weekends for parents who’ve just found out their child is deaf.

We went along and it was a revelation. We attended talks from professionals and met other parents. It was tough and emotional, talking about the realities of having a deaf child. But it was a big comfort to meet others going through the same things. Suddenly we weren’t alone anymore.

We came away informed about the challenges ahead, but inspired. We had hope and could see a future for Lois.

The early days were such a dark, bewildering time. Now the future is looking far brighter. Our happy, funny wee girl is going to be just fine. She’s strong-willed and determined, and nothing need stand in her way.”



**“Suddenly we had hope and could see a future for Lois.”**

Some deaf children speak, some use sign language, and others use a mixture of the two. We are here for every deaf child, however they choose to communicate.

We believe that everyone has the right to learn British Sign Language (BSL) if they want to. But it's rarely taught in schools and private lessons are expensive. We want to make sure there are more opportunities to learn and that children who sign aren't discriminated against.

In Scotland that's meant continuing our work on the BSL Act. This legislation aims to raise awareness of BSL and improve access to services for people who sign. We've been supporting young people and parents to share their views on national and local plans to promote BSL.

In England, pupils can't take a GCSE in BSL, even if it's their preferred language. So we worked with like-minded organisations and our amazing campaigners to challenge the Department for Education. The Government initially said there would be no new GCSEs in that parliament (which could have been as late as 2022). But after our campaigning and media work they agreed to make an exception for BSL. This new GCSE will make the education system fairer for children who use sign language.

**We changed policy for deaf children who want to study British Sign Language.**



**Daniel (13) is profoundly deaf. He and mum, Ann, took legal action after the Government blocked the development of a BSL GCSE.**

“Deaf students are already losing the support they need to get good qualifications, so it felt extra unfair that I couldn’t sit a GCSE in BSL. Every child, deaf or hearing, should be able to succeed in education. I felt discriminated against.

I decided to take legal action as I was keen to do something to challenge the Government. Things really took off when my MP invited the National Deaf Children’s Society and me to visit the Houses of Parliament. The charity explained why the GCSE is so important and they arranged a BSL interpreter. I couldn’t have done it on my own.

I did lots of TV interviews to pressurise the Department for Education. I was very busy but it worked! I was amazed when I realised I’d achieved my ambition. BSL should be valued the same as spoken languages and it’s a big step towards equality.

I hope the GCSE is introduced while I’m still in school. If not, I’m happy that it’ll help the futures of lots of children.

I don’t know where my future will lead, it’s exciting. I want to continue improving the rights of deaf people, I’d love to be a Teacher of the Deaf, or I might get the keys for 10 Downing Street one day!”



**“It will help the futures of lots of children.”**

There's lots of technology to support deaf children's communication, but it can be expensive and difficult to get hold of, depending on where you live.

To ensure families don't miss out, we offer free loans of the latest products through our Technology Test Drive. Over three months, families can decide if a product works for them, and use this evidence to make a case to their local authority for funding. Families borrowed 1,236 products to help their child communicate or be more independent.

Radio aids – one of our most popular products – transmit a person's voice directly to a child's hearing aids or cochlear implant. They make it easier to hear over background noise like construction work, music or people talking.

Radio aids are commonly used in schools and can help young deaf children access spoken language. But despite the benefits, not all councils in England provide radio aids for pre-school deaf children.

We published research on the benefits of radio aids and have been campaigning on this issue. As a result, the percentage of local authorities in England providing radio aids to pre-school deaf children has risen from 46% to 62%, an increase of 21 local authorities.

**Twenty-one local authorities in England have changed their policy on radio aids.**



**Nicola is mum to Theo (6) who is mildly to moderately deaf. Theo's confidence soared after borrowing a radio aid from us.**

“Access to technology like radio aids is crucial at an early age when children are learning phonics. If they can't hear sounds clearly it can affect their reading, and their speech and language development.

We decided to borrow a radio aid from the National Deaf Children's Society because our Teacher of the Deaf suggested it might be helpful for him. Theo was in a busy reception class with 35 children and we hoped a radio aid would make sure he wasn't missing out.

Theo could hear the teachers better in the classroom and during PE, which meant he felt involved in everything going on at school. At the end of the three month loan period our local authority bought the radio aid for him. Borrowing a radio aid helped us to make a positive case to the local authority, and the support of our Teacher of the Deaf was also invaluable. We were lucky to have a positive experience with our local authority, but we want all kids to have a fair chance to access equipment.

Theo's now doing amazingly, his confidence levels are high, he has loads of friends at school and he's a high achiever. I hope his deafness won't be a barrier to anything he wants to achieve in the future.”



**“Now Theo's confidence levels are high and he has loads of friends.”**

Learning to communicate is the single biggest issue that deaf children in developing countries face. Children are often not diagnosed as deaf until they reach five or six, and their family may not receive any advice on how to support their child's communication. Without hearing aids, regular health checks, or opportunities to learn sign language, many children struggle to communicate with loved ones. Most deaf children have little or no language – either spoken or signed – when they start primary school.

Through our international arm, Deaf Child Worldwide, we work with nine partners in South Asia and East Africa on projects to support language and communication. Through these projects we reached 1,452 deaf children, families, friends and professionals.

One of our partners is the National Association of Parents of Deaf Children (NAPADEC), which is leading a three year project to improve communication between deaf children and their families in Uganda. During the lifetime of the project NAPADEC has reached more than 300 parents through its work with local parent groups, including teaching more than 100 parents to use sign language. This has opened up a whole new world for deaf children and some are now able to communicate with family for the very first time.

**We supported  
1,452 people with  
language and  
communication.**



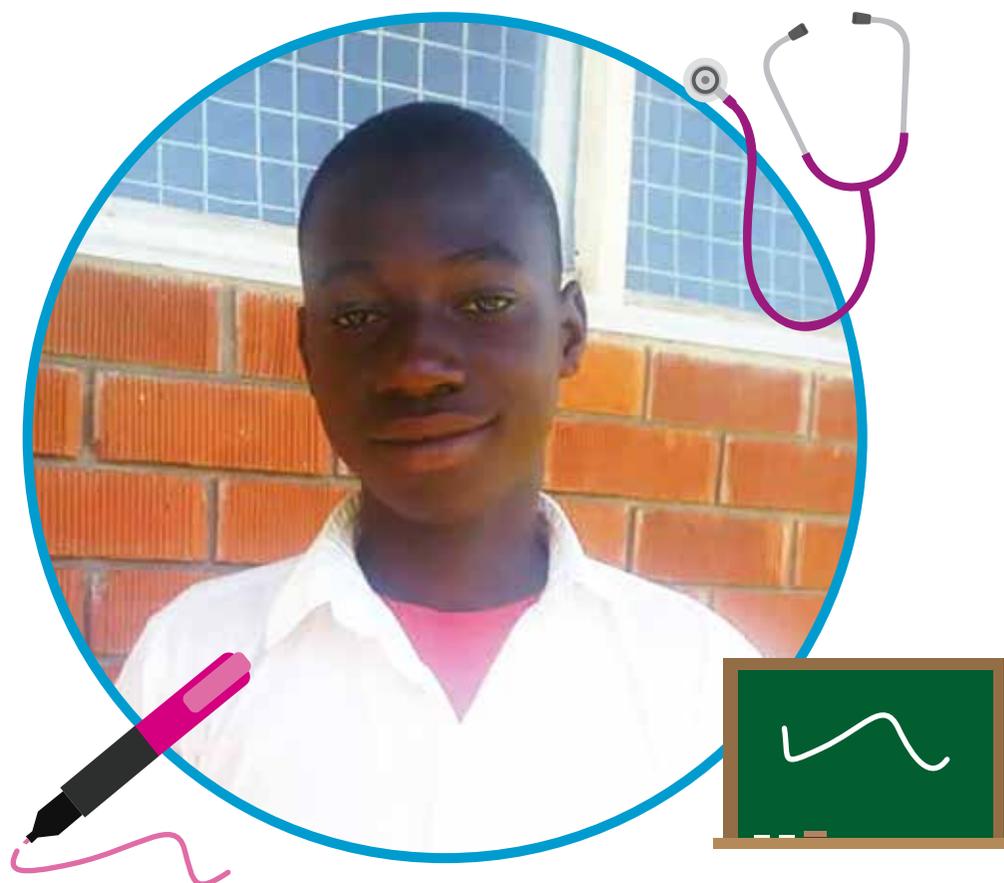
**Kange lives in Uganda and is dad to Sharif (14) who is deaf. With support from us via NAPADEC Kange has learned sign language and now educates his community about deafness.**

“When Sharif was born deaf I felt defeated. I thought I was the only parent with a deaf child who had ever lived and that his deafness was the result of witchcraft. I couldn’t feel OK in my community and family because of the guilt and shame I felt.

Then I got involved with NAPADEC. I joined a parent support group and started to learn basic sign language. I’m now able to communicate with Sharif using the skills I’ve learned, and we also use pen and paper for more advanced communication. Sharif has a positive attitude towards teaching everyone sign language and I’ve been learning some harder signs from him.

NAPADEC has supported our parents’ group by teaching us skills like fundraising, proposal writing and leadership. With their support I’ve learnt to overcome negative attitudes towards deafness. Now I educate the community and family members.

Sharif is at a secondary school for deaf children and when he finishes his education he wants to become a doctor. I am proud of him and hope his future will be bright.”



**“I hope Sharif’s future will be bright.”**

School is a vital stepping stone for children to get where they want in life. But deaf children are falling behind at every point in their education, even though deafness isn't a learning disability.

One reason for this is sweeping cuts to services that deaf children rely on. These include time with a Teacher of the Deaf, who has been specially trained to support deaf pupils, and access to essential technology like radio aids.

Losing such vital support can threaten deaf children's futures. So we've fought – and won – battles against budget cuts in areas including Southampton and Cumbria.

Our national call for support was answered by more than 600 people, who asked their MP to attend a parliamentary debate on services for deaf children. If you got involved – thank you. It was a vital chance to show how education cuts impact on deaf children's lives.

No one can explain the issues better than deaf young people themselves. Ella and Francesca are members of our Young People's Advisory Board and the first deaf young people ever invited to speak at an Education Select Committee. Their powerful testimony really brought home to people in power why support for deaf children must be protected.



**More than 600 people encouraged their MP to attend a parliamentary debate.**

**Ella (14) is profoundly deaf. Alongside Francesca, another member of our Young People's Advisory Board, she challenged MPs at the Education Select Committee and changed their views.**

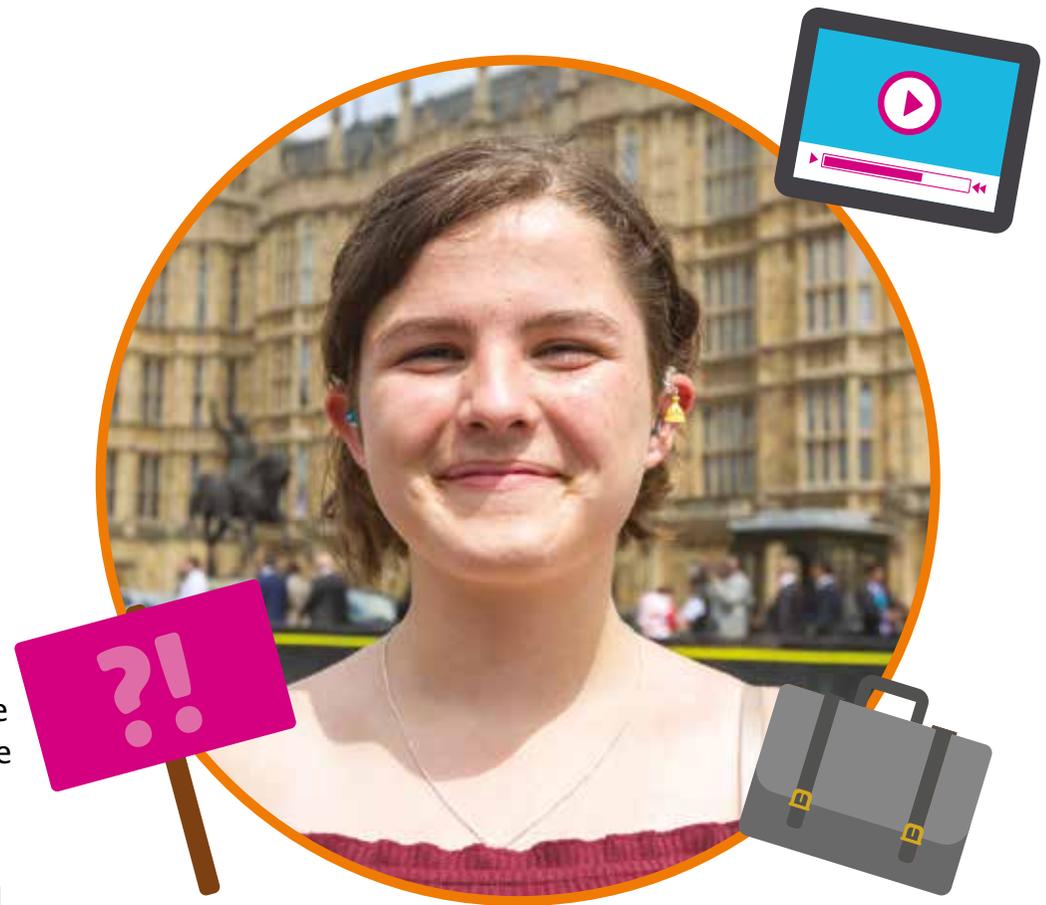
“I wanted to speak at the Education Select Committee because I was (and still am) angry about funding for deaf children's education. The system is failing and the whole process has impacted on my mental health.

I was pleased with how MPs responded as it's scary enough talking about mental health, let alone to MPs. But they all seemed to listen and take a genuine interest.

We were a bit daunted, but Francesca was the perfect person to have with me – we kept each other's confidence up. We'd also spent an invaluable day beforehand with the National Deaf Children's Society to think about how to answer the MPs' questions.

I know I've made a difference. I'm now seeing things that I talked about put into motion, like how councils should be better at sticking to timeframes for education plans. It's also helped me. If my self-worth is ever low, I can watch the recording of what Francesca and I achieved.

I've had such incredible opportunities from being part of the Young People's Advisory Board. But the best bit is the friends I've made. I've had 18 amazing role models to look up to and I'll never stop telling people how inspirational they are.”



**“I'm seeing things I talked about put into motion.”**

One of the best things about being a child is the chance to go on adventures and discover new things. Whether that's making friends, exploring the world or finding a hobby you love – no child should miss out just because they're deaf.

But 80% of parents told us there are barriers to their deaf child taking part in activities outside of school. This includes youth groups and sports clubs and could mean that deaf children miss out on life-saving skills like how to swim.

To tackle this problem we led a Deaf-Friendly Swimming Project, which was funded until 2019. One of our key aims was to educate swimming teachers on how to include deaf learners. We reached 216 teachers through workshops and events, with 718 people taking part in our online training course. In total 934 teachers learned how to make their lessons fun and inclusive for deaf children.

We got 168 deaf young people involved in our swimming events and classes, and through our bursary scheme we supported five deaf young people to achieve their ambition of becoming a qualified swimming teacher or lifeguard.

We smashed all our targets for participation in the project, and were 142% over our target for reaching professionals.



The Deaf-Friendly Swimming Project was funded by Young Start, delivered by the National Lottery Community Fund.

**We taught 934  
swimming teachers  
how to be deaf-friendly.**



**Lauren (23), who is profoundly deaf, trained as a swimming teacher through our Deaf-Friendly Swimming Project.**

“I found learning to swim difficult and had to do three years of classes. It was frustrating and I didn’t feel involved in lessons. Eventually I had one-to-one sessions with an instructor and this made a big difference.

When I found out the National Deaf Children’s Society had a bursary scheme for deaf swimming teachers, I decided to apply. I didn’t want more deaf children missing out like I did because swimming is enjoyable and a life skill too.

With the bursary I was able to complete a Level 1 and 2 swim teaching course certificate. This helped me to develop my teaching skills and gain practical knowledge. Putting all the theory into practice in real lessons was the most rewarding bit for me. It was great seeing the children improve and we all felt a big sense of achievement afterwards.

I’m now at university and work as a swimming teacher two days a week. I’ve also had internships working with competitive swimmers, and a role as a performance analyst for a football club.

All of the experiences I’ve had started with the bursary scheme and I’m excited to see where else it will lead me in the future. Becoming a swimming teacher has made me more confident and inspired me in so many ways.”



**“Teaching has inspired me and made me more confident.”**

Most deaf children are born into hearing families, and it's not unusual for them to grow up without meeting another deaf child. This can feel very isolating, particularly if they're missing out on conversations at school or being left out by hearing friends. It's important deaf young people have the chance to meet one another and share experiences and tips.

At our events we bring deaf young people together to learn something new, make amazing friends, and feel good about themselves. Confidence and independence is at the heart of everything we do, whether it's younger children experiencing a first night away from home, or teenagers learning how to write CVs.

We offer a supportive space where deaf young people can try out everything from water sports and climbing to dance, drama and music – and achieve things they never thought possible. In total, 282 deaf young people attended our events, and all of them felt they had achieved at least one positive outcome, including feeling more confident or becoming a more effective communicator. Most importantly, many deaf young people leave our events having made lifelong friends.

**100% of young people achieved something positive at our events.**



**Zahra (17) is profoundly deaf. She made some amazing friends – and started planning for the future – at one of our events to support independence.**

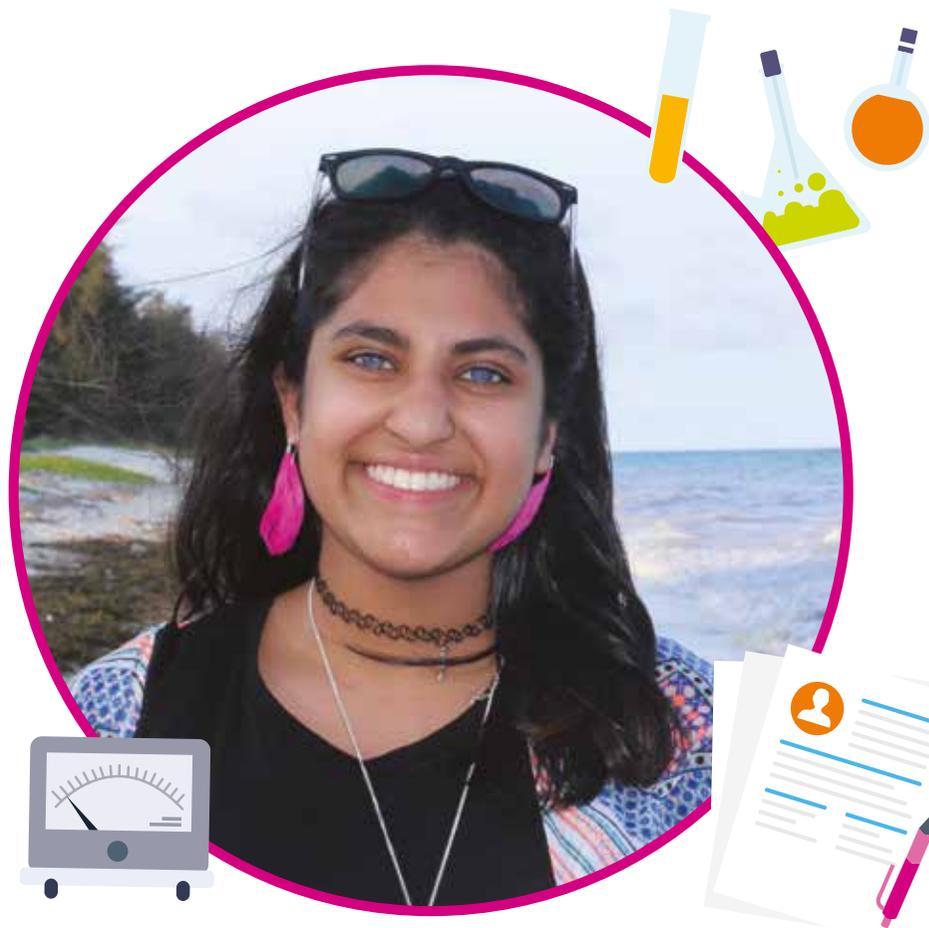
“I’ve been surrounded by the hearing community my whole life so I was ecstatic when I heard about the opportunity to go away with the National Deaf Children’s Society. I was curious about being with deaf people and hoped to make new friends.

At workshops we found out about different support available at school, university and work and I now feel more prepared for the future. We learned how to write CVs, had an emotional health and wellbeing session and found out about volunteering opportunities. We also took part in exciting challenges like abseiling and laser tag.

My favourite part was the evenings when we got to know the other participants. Communication was easy. You could have a conversation with whoever you wanted, whenever you liked. Generally I use speech but this was a great opportunity to practise signing.

I made some amazing friends with people who’ve faced similar experiences to me. We shared a special connection that I hadn’t felt before. I’ve met up with the friends I’ve made since and we’ve called each other on Skype.

This was without a doubt one of the best weeks of my life. I have never felt so happy with myself and positive about the future.”



**“I have never felt so positive about the future.”**

Teacher, bus driver, scientist, shop worker – there are lots of careers out there. But although deaf people can do most jobs, they are twice as likely to be out of work as their hearing peers. This has to change so we're taking action.

It's important that we understand more about the issues so we've commissioned a five year study about deaf young people's experiences after they leave school. The research is the first of its kind and we will use the findings to bring about long term change.

Deaf young people have amazing potential and we're supporting professionals to foster their wide-ranging talents. 125 education, health and social care professionals attended our Right for the Future conference to find out how to help deaf young people achieve their ambitions. Afterwards 89% of attendees said they now felt more confident in this area.

Research from our Young People's Advisory Board has found that careers support for deaf pupils is patchy, that few deaf children are going on work experience, and that there isn't enough information about their rights in the workplace. We'll be challenging expectations on what deaf young people can achieve through our careers campaign, which will launch in 2020.

**89% of professionals felt more confident about supporting deaf young people.**



**Rhodri (14) is moderately deaf. He's a member of our Young People's Advisory Board (YAB) and helped to kick-start our careers campaign.**

“Good careers advice is important because it allows deaf young people to know what support we're entitled to. I got involved in the campaign after joining the Young People's Advisory Board. It's been great to meet lots of new and friendly faces.

Me and the other YAB members acted as 'Young Inspectors', going into schools and talking to careers advisers about what sort of advice they offer. The National Deaf Children's Society helped me to become a Young Inspector by giving me tips for the interview and how to get straight to the point when asking questions. At the interview I found out my school was one of the better ones – it gives good careers advice but not much deaf-specific information.

I hope the careers campaign will allow deaf young people to receive better careers advice that is more specific to them. After getting involved, I learned that we are entitled to a lot more than I first thought, like a note-taker in lessons and in meetings at work.

The best thing about being on the YAB – and getting involved in the campaign – has been the opportunity to make a difference and have a voice in what goes on in the world.”



**“It's been an opportunity to have a voice.”**

## Overcoming barriers to independence

**In many developing countries, there are deaf young people who rarely leave their parents' homes, have never been to school, and don't know how to read and write. They may not even know what independence is.**

If a deaf young person doesn't go out into their community, the chances of them ever getting a job are small. Many deaf young people are financially dependent on their families, and have never worked.

Deaf young people deserve the opportunity to live independent lives. So, working with 12 partner organisations in East Africa and South Asia, we are teaching deaf young people vocational skills.

Across our projects we've trained 626 young people in vocational skills like dressmaking and hairdressing. We're also training businesses so they understand that deaf young people can make great employees with the right support.

Working with the Children in Need Institute in India (CINI) we've taught 118 deaf young people basic life skills like health, hygiene and nutrition and made them aware of their rights under the country's disability acts. We've also been working with local employers to offer deaf young people successful work placements in hotels, cafes and factories.



**We've trained 626 deaf young people in skills for work.**

**Asgori (20) lives in India. Since receiving support from us via the Children in Need Institute (CINI) Asgori has found a job as a beautician and become independent for the first time.**

“Until I was 18 I stayed home and picked rubbish from a skip. I had no friends in the community, and my mother didn’t allow me to speak to others. I didn’t think about going to school, or that I was missing out. I didn’t know.

Then I met CINI and I started to go to their centre. I was happy to see other young people similar to me. I started to learn sign language and got help to become a beautician. I received emotional support too.

Now I have a job I give some of my wages to my mother and the rest I keep for food and clothes. Previously I was dirty all the time, I never wore clean clothes, and I wasn’t neat.

Before, I was feeling suffocated and now I can mix with others. I stay at the beautician’s every day, all day. When I’m not there, I’m at the CINI centre, where I’ve developed local sign language and speech. I share what I’ve learned with my mum. In my spare time I draw and dance and sing with my colleagues.

In future, I want to open my own parlour and later I will marry. Not now as I’m still too young.”



**“I didn’t think about going to school... I didn’t know I was missing out.”**

**We aim high but there's always more we can do to improve support for deaf children and their families. We want to develop new areas of work, learn from things that didn't go according to plan and make sure we do better in the future. We owe it to you – our funders – and to the families we support.**

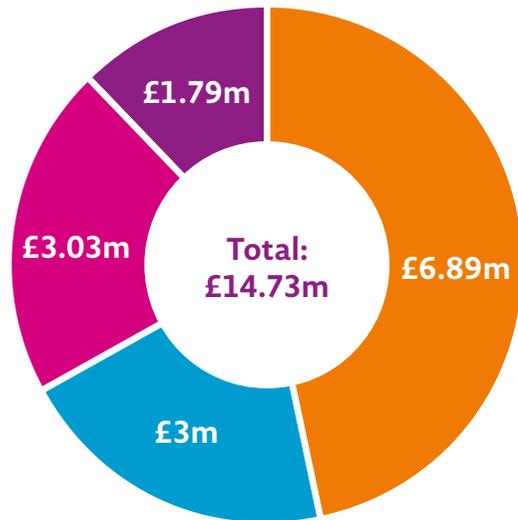
- We want to gain greater insight into the lives of deaf children and any developments in policy and technology that will affect their lives in the future. We will achieve this by further investing in a wide range of learning and research, including making sure that everything we do is informed by deaf children and their families.
- Our new website has been welcomed by parents and received positive feedback from members, but delays to launch have impacted on delivery of a new digital offer for young people. Work on this long term project will get underway in 2019/20.



- We need to create more opportunities for parents and carers to get peer to peer support. To address this, we're going to develop an online community for parents and carers to share problems and tips, as well as facilitating more face-to-face meet-ups.
- We'll be developing our membership offer for deaf young people in 2019/20 after delays this year. In the meantime we've started to promote young membership through the introduction of a new technology loan service for deaf young people aged 16+.
- We need to do more to promote our events and services to meet the needs of families who most need support. We will invest in our marketing in 2019/20 to make sure we reach the right audiences.

## How your gifts were spent

Summary of charitable expenditure



Overcoming barriers in local and national services

Overcoming barriers in language and communication

Overcoming barriers to independence

Other charitable activities

## Board of Trustees

Our Trustee Board governs the charity and has a maximum of 12 trustees, all volunteers. The majority of our trustees are parents or carers of deaf children and members of the charity. Trustees can serve on the Board for a maximum of nine consecutive years.

**Thanks to all of our trustees for their service over the last year.**

Lisa Capper (Chair)

Tim Polack (Vice Chair)

Sally Procopis

(Treasurer, resigned 19 May 2018)

Helen Selwood

(Treasurer from 19 May 2018)

Sheila McKenzie (Deputy Treasurer)

Suzanne Beese

Gerard Featherstone

Lynn Gadd (appointed 19 July 2019)

Jane Hill (resigned 26 July 2018)

Dominic Holton

Damian Proctor

(appointed 19 July 2019)

Jennie Rayson

Jan Rutherford

Lorraine Wapling

(appointed 2 November 2018)

## Annual Report and Financial Statements

The annual report and financial statements were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf on 1 November 2019.

The statutory financial statements, on which the auditors Crowe UK LLP gave an unqualified audit report on 5 November 2019 have been submitted to the Registrar of Companies, the Charity Commission and the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator.

You can get the full trustees' report, statutory financial statements and auditors' report from our Freephone Helpline on **0808 800 8880** or from our website [www.ndcs.org.uk](http://www.ndcs.org.uk).

**We wouldn't be here without you, our amazing supporters. Whether you've taken part in our Big Cake Bake, run a marathon, pledged a legacy, awarded a grant or given a regular or one-off gift, you are making sure that deaf children have a brighter future.**

You've helped to fund all the projects in this report, and so many more that we don't have the space to mention. Here, we'd like to say a little bit more about just one of our projects, Positive Families Plus, which was generously funded from 2015–2019.

We wanted to reach families who might find it more difficult to access our services, building their skills and knowledge and offering opportunities to get peer support. During the life of the project, we reached 975 parents and carers through information sessions and courses. This included 168 people who took part in our Family Sign Language sessions, and 149 who participated in our Raising a Deaf Child course. Eighty-five percent of those parents said they were now better able to communicate with their child.

Every penny you give makes a difference, and we thank you for helping thousands of deaf children and their families to feel positive about the future.



Positive Families Plus was funded by the National Lottery Community Fund.

**85% of parents were better able to communicate with their child**



Tracy is mum to Jack (6) who has moderate hearing loss. They learned sign language together as part of the Positive Families Plus project.

“Jack was diagnosed with hearing loss from birth. It was a stressful and emotional time as Jack was the first of four of our children to have a hearing loss.

We’d picked up a few basic signs from attending a deaf toddler group when Jack was younger, and by watching Mr Tumble. I was interested in learning more sign language – I hoped it would help Jack communicate as his speech isn’t always clear. The National Deaf Children’s Society event was the first opportunity we’d had for both of us to learn together – and it was fully funded.

We learned so much, including signs for colours, emotions, animals and the alphabet. Everyone joined in and had a go at the different signs, which made them easier to remember. There were also games for the children related to the signs we were learning. The volunteers and staff were so friendly and really good with the kids.

Since the event we’ve continued to use sign language on a regular basis, especially at mealtimes both at home and at school. Jack now uses sign when he has emotions that he feels unable to communicate verbally – and this is a huge development for him.”



**“Jack uses sign to communicate his emotions.”**

## Trusts and foundations

A M Pilkington Trust  
Alexander Moncur Trust  
Bell Foundation  
Bellahouston Bequest Fund  
Bishop's Hatfield Masonic Lodge  
Blackburn Trust  
Cantiacorum Foundation  
Charles Brotherton Trust  
D M Charitable Trust  
Department for Communities  
Diana Parker Charitable Settlement  
Donald Forrester Trust  
Doris Field Charitable Trust  
Educational Foundation of Alderman John Norman  
Elsie Lawrence Trust  
Enkalon Foundation  
Eric W Vincent Trust Fund  
Geoff Hill Charitable Trust  
George A Moore Foundation  
Glasgow City Council  
Halifax Foundation For Northern Ireland  
Hayward Sanderson Trust  
Helen Robertson Charitable Trust  
James T Howat Charitable Trust  
Joseph & Annie Cattle Trust  
Leach Family Charitable Trust

Leng Charitable Trust  
Lord Belstead Charitable Settlement  
Marston Charitable Trust  
Michael Cornish Charitable Trust  
Miss Anne R Jolly's Trust  
Mrs M A Black Charitable Trust  
Murphy-Neumann Charity Co Ltd  
P F Charitable Trust  
Paul Bassham Charitable Trust  
Pilkington Charities Fund  
Raymond and Blanche Lawson Charitable Trust  
Richard Lumley Charitable Trust  
Scottish Government  
ScottishPower Foundation  
SCVO  
Sir Jeremiah Colman Gift Trust  
Sir John & Lady Amory's Charitable Trust  
Sovereign Health Care Charitable Trust  
The A M Perry Charitable Foundation  
The Annandale Charitable Trust  
The Annett Trust  
The Austin Bailey Foundation  
The Brock Webb Trust  
The Charlotte Tana Heymann Charitable Foundation  
The Chillag Family Charitable Trust  
The Community of the Presentation Trust

The Constance Travis Trust  
The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust  
The Elaine Barratt Charitable Trust  
The Finderman Charitable Trust  
The Grace Trust  
The Hedley Denton Charitable Trust  
The Hon A.G. Samuel Charitable Trust  
The J Torrington Childrens Fund  
The James Weir Foundation  
The Jenour Foundation  
The John Thaw Foundation  
The Joseph & Mary Hiley Trust  
The Lady Hind Trust  
The Multithon Trust  
The National Lottery Community Fund England  
The National Lottery Community Fund Scotland  
The Pennycress Trust  
The Robertson Trust  
The Russell Trust  
The Walter Guinness Charitable Trust  
The White Family Charitable Trust  
The White Oak Charitable Trust  
The Zochonis Charitable Trust  
Thistledown Trust  
Thomas Lilley Memorial Trust  
Ulster Garden Villages Ltd

Worshipful Company of Lightmongers Charitable Trust Ltd  
Young Scot  
Zurich Community Trust (UK) Limited

### ♥ Corporates

Fieldfisher  
Next  
PFS  
Quest Joinery  
Seven Investment Management  
Smyths Toys Superstores  
The Access Group

### ♥ Major funders

Buffini Chao Foundation



## Overcoming barriers to services

We will defend services for deaf children and young people against reductions in local authority budgets, identify policy solutions and advocate for investment and improvement in the quality of services.

We will improve local and regional support for deaf children and young people and their families through a network of local groups, by supporting local activism, and by challenging mainstream organisations to become deaf-friendly.



## Overcoming barriers to language and communication

We will help families to support the language and communication skills of their deaf child, particularly in the early years.

We will promote and campaign for best practice and standards in the language and communication development of deaf children and young people, particularly in the early years.



## Overcoming barriers to independence

We will support deaf children and young people by continuing to develop our youth membership offer, providing opportunities to help them connect to our support and information and to our face-to-face activities and engagement opportunities.

We will influence the quality of support for deaf young people in further and higher education and broaden aspirations for deaf young people in employment. This will be the focus of our careers campaign.





National  
Deaf Children's  
Society

**We are the National Deaf Children's Society,  
the leading charity for deaf children.**

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Published by the National Deaf Children's Society  
© National Deaf Children's Society February 2020

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The National Deaf Children's Society is a registered charity in England  
and Wales no.1016532 and in Scotland no. SC040779. A0097

