

Communication Support Volunteer



National
Deaf Children's
Society

Communication Support Volunteers are an essential part of our work for **reaching and supporting different communities**. Our partners in the community hold events across the UK and your support will help **assist communication by translating between English and British Sign Language (BSL)**, ensuring attendees have a **positive experience!** You will provide **informal communication support** (this is not a qualified interpreter role). You may be on your own, or as part of a team so you'll need to be **enthusiastic** and **motivated**.

About you

- Aged 18 years and over
- BSL signing skills at level 3 or above (with or without a formal qualification)
- Able to adapt your communication methods depending on individual needs and environments
- Willing to get involved in activities to encourage people to participate
- Communicate effectively within your role and as part of a team

When and where

- Events will vary regionally and may take place during the day, evening, or weekends as a one-off or regular occurrence
- You'll decide where and when you'd like to volunteer - we don't expect anyone to travel far from their home

What you will do

Your tasks will depend on who you are supporting and what kind of event they're running, but they may include:

- Assisting two-way communication for children and adults with varied communication methods
- Translating between English and British Sign Language (BSL)
- Completing agreed tasks on time and responding to any changes on the day
- Identifying tasks that need doing and any issues that need reporting
- Using your initiative to respond to situations and help out without being asked
- Presenting the National Deaf Children's Society and our community partners in a positive way

What will you gain from the role?

Other volunteers have told us that training and volunteering has given them:

- Increased confidence and new skills
- A broader understanding of childhood deafness and the issues faced by families
- A sense of achievement by making a positive difference

Support and training

You will be provided with:

- Basic training to help keep yourself, others, and data safe
- A named point of contact for support
- Reimbursement of agreed expenses such as travel costs
- Clear information about what to do and who to contact if you are worried about something



We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of families, children and young people. You will be asked to complete a Basic DBS check, complete a self-disclosure form, provide references, and complete our essential training.