



Cover
50%
of training costs

Improve the BSL skills of your communication support workers

Schools, colleges and education authorities in England can apply to a new fund for improving the BSL skills of communication support workers (CSWs) working with deaf children and young people.

For further information or an application form email professionals@ndcs.org.uk



The minimum recommended qualification level for CSWs is BSL Level 3 accompanied by a CSW qualification. However, many CSWs are under qualified which can result in poor access to the curriculum for deaf children and young people who rely on BSL.

The fund will pay up to 50% of the cost of accessing BSL training including travel and accommodation. Priority will be given to those moving up from Level 2 to Level 3.

Applications must be received no later than 31 January 2016.
(Grants will be allocated on a monthly basis until fund is depleted. Applicants are advised to apply as soon as possible).

Criteria for communication support worker (CSW) Fund

- To be used to up-skill BSL level of CSWs currently supporting deaf students in England
- Training must commence before 31 March 2016
- Must report back on impact of the training on children/young people CSW working with
- Only one training place can be funded per grant

Priority is given to:

- CSWs at BSL Level 2 to up-skill to Level 3
- Those working in schools with children/young people aged 16 or under
- Making sure there is geographical spread of funding

The fund is being made available via the National Sensory Impairment Partnership (NatSIP), which is funded by the Department for Education (DfE) to enable local authorities and settings to ensure the right provision is in place to support and improve outcomes for children with sensory impairment, including those who rely on access to British Sign Language to access the curriculum. The National Deaf Children's Society is administering the DfE grant funding on behalf of NatSIP. NDCS is a registered charity: England and Wales (1016532) and Scotland (SC040779)

