

Aims and Objectives

- To improve the communication gap between Deaf and hearing communities and to assist Deaf and hearing people who work/live together
- To assist in raising 'Deaf Awareness' amongst the public and private sectors
- To be able to differentiate between misconception and fact about Deafness and Deaf culture
- To learn about the types of support services that are available to Deaf people
- To give insight into the history of sign languages, Deaf organisations and the Deaf community
- To understand Deaf culture in all aspects of life

Training Focuses on

- Points of good practice in spoken and written communication
- Basic Irish sign language skills
- Correct terminology to use with Deaf and Hard of Hearing people
- How to make your service accessible to Deaf people
- Technology for Deaf people and where you can source it
- Resources: information, leaflets etc.

Cork Deaf Association

The Cork Deaf Association works hard to promote the rights of Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in Cork city and county. We aim to see full and equal participation of Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in all aspects of society. Services include Deaf awareness talks, Sign language classes, adjustment to hearing loss programmes, assistive technology and social work supports.

Our Services

Information Centre

Education

Social Work Service

Hard of Hearing Support

Assistive Technology (Deaftech)

Employment Support

Support Groups and Activities

Outreach Programmes

Cork Deaf Association

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Be Deaf Aware!

**Deaf
Awareness
Training**

Cork Deaf Association

Deaf Awareness

Deaf Awareness Training aims to promote understanding of Deafness and Deaf Culture. The ultimate goal of Deaf Awareness is to reduce barriers between Deaf and hearing people and combat discrimination.

The Cork Deaf Association offers accredited Deaf Awareness Training programmes to organisations and groups. These are delivered by a qualified and experienced trainer. If you would like to learn more about these programmes email Susan at susan@corkdeaf.ie.

Be Deaf Aware!

Did you know that many Deaf people consider themselves to be part of a linguistic minority and cultural minority as opposed to being disabled?



Did you know that there are different Sign Languages in different countries? In Ireland, we use Irish Sign Language (ISL). In Britain, British Sign Language (BSL) is used and in America, American Sign Language is used (ASL).

Did you know that when the word 'Deaf' is written with a capital 'D' it has quite a different meaning to the word 'deaf' when written with a lower case 'd'? Capital 'D' is used to refer to the cultural experience of being Deaf. Many Deaf people consider themselves to be part of a Deaf community, which has its own separate visual language, customs, traditions and culture. Lower case 'd' refers to the audiological condition of hearing loss and deaf people who do not see themselves as part of a Deaf community.



Some Elements of Deaf Culture

- The Deaf community value a sense of community. Connections with other Deaf people are important and members of the Deaf community will often link in with friends from all over the country
 - Deaf people may be quite direct in their communication. This can appear 'blunt' to hearing people
 - Communication is generally very expressive as facial expression, eye contact and body language are vital elements of sign language
 - There are many wonderful Deaf films, poems, plays and art works. Basically the Deaf arts are as diverse as hearing arts, with an emphasis on the visual!
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