

Junior Trainee Interpreter (JTI)

This is an interpreter who is working towards becoming a Trainee Interpreter. They will have BSL skills that have been assessed at Level 3 NVQ or equivalent, together with an agreed standard of English skills. They will be working through, or may have completed a recognised Interpreter Training Programme. They should have a good knowledge of the Deaf Community and interpreting issues, but they are still developing their language and interpreting skills, and may not have had a great deal of practical experience of interpreting.

For more information see the Signature website at <http://www.signature.org.uk/>

BSL/ English interpreters who are members of ASLI (Association of Sign Language Interpreters) are categorised in three ways:

- **Full Members** (MASLI). These are Interpreters who have proven knowledge meeting the national interpreting standards, NVQ 4 BSL and proven practical interpreting meeting the national interpreting standards.
- **Associate Members**. These are Interpreters who have successfully completed an approved interpreter training course)
- **Student Members**. These are Interpreters who are undertaking an approved interpreter training course.

For more information see the ASLI website at <http://www.asli.org.uk/>



Nottinghamshire Sign Language Interpreting Service

For further information please contact:

Catherine or Jo
Nottinghamshire Sign Language
Interpreting Service
22 Forest Road West
Nottingham NG7 4EQ

Minicom: 0115-978-6984
Telephone: 0115-978-6984
Fax: 0115-942-3729
Email: nslis@nottsdeaf.org.uk

Booking a British Sign Language/ English Interpreter



Enquiries:
0115-978-6984
www.nottsdeaf.org.uk

Guidelines

Listed below are some basic guidelines to help you when booking an interpreter. By following this procedure you will help us to provide the best possible service for yourself and your Deaf and hearing client(s).



1. When booking an interpreter it is important to provide the following:

- Date, time and venue of the assignment
- Type of assignment, e.g. meeting, conference, training event etc
- Purpose/goal of the assignment
- How many people will be involved
- Requirements of the Deaf and hearing participants

N.B. The interpreting process requires intense concentration and mental processing and as a result is very tiring. For meetings and events lasting longer than one and a half hours it is usually necessary to book more than one interpreter.



2. BSL/ English interpreters need to have full details of the assignment well in advance. You will need to provide preparation materials such as:

- Handouts
- Agendas

- Notes/ minutes of previous meetings
- OHPs/ Power point slides
- Videotapes
- Explanations of technical jargon/ terms/ abbreviations

Please note: We reserve the right to withdraw from the assignment should you fail to provide preparation materials when requested.



3. Before the assignment you will need to plan the following:

- Allow some time (10–15 minutes) to meet with the interpreter. You can discuss any specific requirements of the assignment and agree on the best way to work together.
- Give the interpreter and the Deaf client time to meet each other before the assignment begins. This will enable them to get accustomed to each other's style of communication.
- Build in breaks - watching an interpreter for long periods of time can be tiring and Deaf people need sufficient breaks built into the programme.

REMEMBER: Due to the local and national shortage of interpreters you should try to book at least two weeks in advance.

Qualifications and Training

You should always try and book qualified (MRSLI/ MASLI) BSL/ English interpreters for the following assignments:

- Mental Health
- Child Protection
- Police and Courts
- Social Service reviews

For BSL/ English Interpreters registered with the National Register of Communication Professionals working with Deaf and Deafblind People (NRCPD) there are three different categories:

Member of the Register (MRSLI)

This is an interpreter who has met nationally recognised standards, which have been agreed by the NRCPD. These are called the Interpreter Registration Standards and set out the competence and professional practice expected of a Member of the Register. BSL/English Interpreters must be highly skilled in the use of both BSL and English. They must also have appropriate levels of knowledge about interpreting and professional conduct and be competent practitioners in a variety of settings.

Trainee Interpreter (TI)

This is an interpreter who is working towards becoming a Member of the Register. Trainee Interpreters will have BSL skills that have been assessed at Level 4 NVQ or equivalent, together with an agreed standard of English skills. They will have completed an Interpreter Training Programme (recognised by the IRP) or, alternatively, are in the process of working through an assessment programme for the Level 4 NVQ in Interpreting (BSL/English). They should have a good knowledge of the Deaf community and interpreting issues and have achieved the required language skills, but they may not yet have the amount of practical experience of interpreting required to meet the standards.