

## Qualification aim

This qualification is designed to teach learners to communicate with Deaf people in British Sign Language (BSL) on a range of topics that involve simple, everyday language use. They will gain basic skills and confidence in production and reception of BSL.

The specification has been designed using the UK Occupational Language Standards 2010 at Level 1.

## Qualification structure

The qualification is divided into three units, each of which can be achieved separately. Learners who are new to BSL should cover BSL101 first, as units BSL102 and BSL103 build on this knowledge. Units BSL102 and BSL103 can be taken in any order.

To achieve the full Level 1 Award in British Sign Language, candidates must pass all units.

Unit	QAN unit number	Unit title	Assessment
BSL101	F/502/4513	Introduction to BSL	Practical assessment of skills
BSL102	J/504/0762	Conversational BSL	Conversation in BSL
BSL103	F/504/0761	Communicate in BSL about Everyday Life	Conversation in BSL

Unit BSL101 is internally assessed by the teacher. Units BSL102 and BSL103 are externally assessed by a Signature assessor.

## Suggested duration

The recommended guided learning hours are 64 hours as shown below:

Unit	Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	Additional study hours	Total learning hours	Credit value
BSL101	20	10	30	3
BSL102	22	8	30	3
BSL103	22	8	30	3
Total	64	26	90	9

LH includes assessment time

Additional study hours include private study, homework, practice, etc.

## Essential requirements

BSL competence standards include requirements for candidates to have sufficient sight, manual dexterity, facial and body movement to produce and receive BSL. It is the responsibility of the centre to explain these requirements before accepting a candidate for this qualification

## Qualification objectives

At the end of the qualification, learners will be able to

- understand and use a limited range of simple words and sentences in BSL
- take part in simple, everyday conversations in BSL
- give and follow simple directions or instructions in BSL
- give and follow simple familiar statements or descriptions in BSL

## Target group

Level 1 Award in British Sign Language can be taken without any previous BSL experience at any level. This qualification allows learners to gain basic skills and confidence in the two areas of production and reception of BSL.

The qualification is supported by over 500 centres throughout the UK ranging from Further and Higher Education establishments to schools and academies.

## Level 1 Award in British Sign Language is suitable for those who:

- want to learn basic language skills to communicate simple conversations with Deaf people
- want to learn new language skills as part of a programme of study
- want to progress to more advanced study and/or employment using BSL in the future
- are studying for personal development
- are parents, family, friends or colleagues of Deaf people.

Level 1 Award in British Sign Language is suitable for all ages, including pre-16.

## Progression routes

On completion of Signature Level 1 Award in British Sign Language, a wide range of further qualifications are available, including

- Signature Level 2 Certificate in British Sign Language
- Signature Level 3 Certificate in British Sign Language

These qualifications would potentially lead an individual to various employment opportunities.