

Qualification aim

This qualification is designed to enable learners to develop their skills to communicate with Deaf people using British Sign Language (BSL) in a range of everyday situations. The qualification will allow learners to participate in longer and more varied conversations than at Level 1. The course will develop communication in BSL about real life, routine, and daily experiences. The learner will be able to deal with most routine communication and have enough understanding of grammar to cope with some non-routine communication.

The specification has been designed to be consistent with the National Language Standards at Level 2.

Qualification structure

The qualification is divided into three units, each of which can be achieved separately. The units can be done in any order at any time but it is recommended that the content of Unit BSL201 is covered before Unit BSL202 or BSL203.

To achieve the full Level 2 Certificate in British Sign Language, candidates are required to achieve all units.

Unit	QAN unit number	Unit title	Assessment
BSL201	J/600/0210	BSL Receptive Skills	multiple choice questions
BSL202	D/600/0214	BSL Productive Skills	Presentation in BSL
BSL203	A/600/0219	BSL Conversational Skills	Conversation in BSL

Units BSL201, BSL202 and BSL203 are externally assessed by a Signature assessor.

Suggested duration

The recommended guided learning hours are 100 hours as shown below:

Unit	Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	Additional study hours	Total learning hours	Credit value
BSL201	30	20	50	5
BSL202	35	15	50	5
BSL203	35	15	50	3
Total	100	50	150	15

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 range of signs and sentences in BSL
- take part in real life, daily experience and varied conversations in BSL
- understand BSL grammar including non-routine communication
- understand a number of regional variations in BSL

Target group

Level 2 Award in British Sign Language can be taken on passing The Level 1 Award. 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 2 Award in British Sign Language is suitable for those who:

- wish to achieve language skills at an intermediate level to improve communication with Deaf people
- want to learn new language skills as part of a programme of study
- want to progress from Level 1 study in BSL, and who may want to progress to more advanced levels of study in BSL at a later date
- are parents, family, friends or colleagues of Deaf people.

Level 2 Award in British Sign Language is suitable for all ages, including pre-16.

Progression routes

On completion of Signature Level 2 Award in British Sign Language, a wide range of further qualifications are available, including

- Signature Level 3 Certificate in British Sign Language
- Signature Level 4 Certificate in British Sign Language

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