

A Guide to Deaf Awareness

What **YOU** can do to communicate with a Deaf Person?

Check if the person can understand what you are saying – if they don't, try saying it in a different way

Make sure you have the attention of the person before you start speaking

Write down important facts

Speak in a quiet and/or well-lit area

Use gestures if possible

Be patient and do not shout

Try BSL finger spelling or learn basic sign language

Face the person when speaking

Remember – it is more frustrating for them than it is for you

Speak clearly – use normal lip movements and do not obscure your mouth