



Learning Disability England

More than words:  
Deaf communication  
and inclusion

*Learning Disability England Conference 2026*



# More than words: Deaf communication and inclusion

*A sketch co-produced with Jonathan and Shane.*



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## Your reflections as an audience





# More than words: More than signs

*The experience of Deaf people with additional communication needs*

The same words, a different language

verbigerative  
mendacious  
brokerage      quotient  
serpiginous



Accessibility can be more than having an interpreter

# The art of listening and communication



## Communication top tips

- Person centred
- Communication support
- Lighting
- Face the person
- Do not exaggerate your speech
- Re-phrase
- Be patient
- Reduce background noise
- Write/ draw

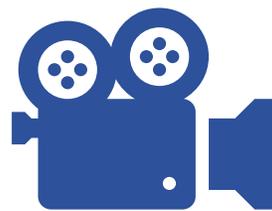




**Learn some BSL with Shane and Jonathan**



## Lip-reading exercise with Nancy





## Lip-reading exercise with Nancy

Some words/letters look the same on the mouth

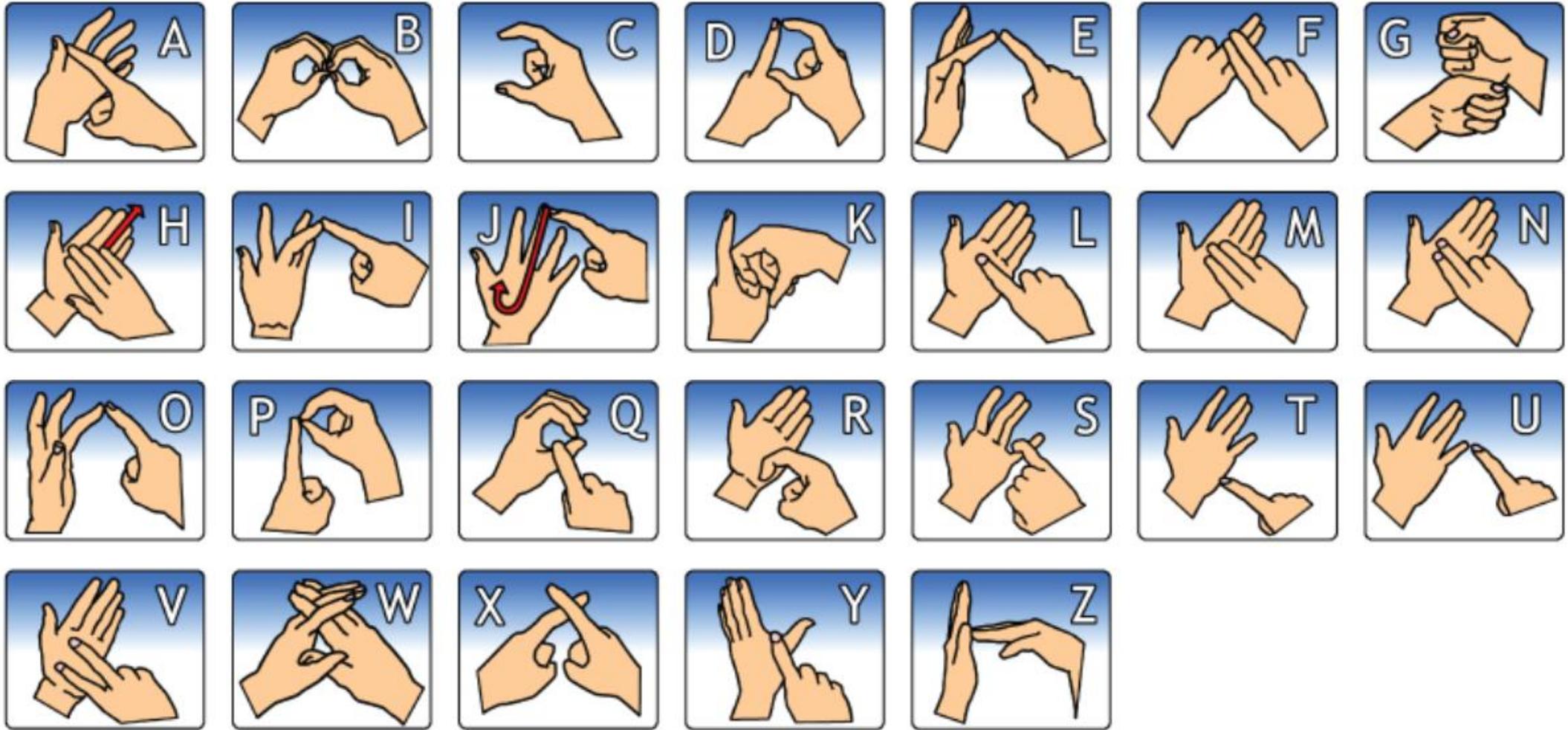
➤ Mat

➤ Bat

➤ Pat



# Lip-reading exercise with Nancy





# Raise D/deaf awareness

Be patient

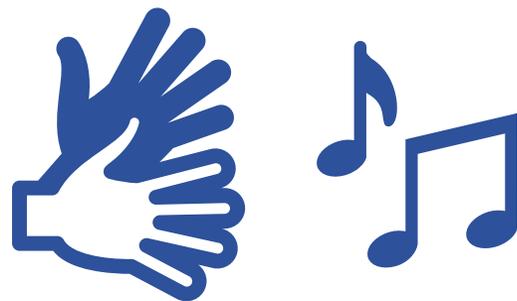
Slow down

Be kind

Share best practise



# Sign song: Lean on me by Bill Withers





# Communication Belongs to Everyone

Accessibility isn't an extra — it's essential. By being mindful, adaptable, and open, we make the world more welcoming for D/deaf people. Thank you for learning, trying, signing, and making a difference.



**Involve**



**Communicate**



**Thank you!**



**Any questions?**