

Under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 it is essential that deaf parents/carers who wish to discuss their children's education have appropriate support from either British Sign Language Interpreters or other support to access official communication.

What is the school's responsibility?

- School should make sure that all Parents have equal access to the School regardless of need.
- You should be able to discuss your communication needs with the school when your child is admitted.

How can you help?

You can help the school to write a communication plan which can be used to inform all staff who need to contact you. The plan can be kept on your son or daughter's school file and with the school secretary.

What sort of information should be in the communication plan?

- How do you prefer to communicate?
 - Face to face
 - British Sign Language
 - Sign supported English
 - Loop System
 - In Writing
- How do you wish to be contacted?
 - Telephone
 - Fax
 - Mobile text message
 - Text phone

When can I ask school to arrange an interpreter for me?

School should book an interpreter for:

- Parents' Evenings.
- Special Educational Needs (SEN) Review Meetings.
- Social events arranged by the school where parents and carers are encouraged to attend.
- Emergency situations.

Who will pay for the interpreter?

School should pay to have an interpreter for:

- Parents' Evenings
- Social events where parents are encouraged to attend.

- Emergency situations
- SEN review meetings.

The Local Authority will pay for an interpreter for meetings related to the statutory assessment of a child or young person but school will be expected to make the arrangements.

Will the interpreter be able to go through reports with me before a meeting?

An interpreter is usually booked for two hours which allows time for this.

What qualifications can I expect the interpreter to have?

All interpreters must:

- be registered Junior Trainee Interpreters or above
- be CRB checked
- have Indemnity Insurance.

For further information on Deaf Issues Contact:

DEAFCONNECT

3 The Granary
Spring Hill Farm, Harborough Road
Pitsford
Northampton, NN6 9AA

e-mail: Family.children@deafconnect.org.uk

Voice: 01604 880777

Fax: 01604 799016

CALS:

Voice: 01604 601817

Fax: 01604 637390

NATIONAL:

N.D.C.S. 0808 800 8880

R.N.I.D. 0808 808 0123

B.D.A. 020 7588 3520

If you would like help, please contact:

 **SN-IP** www.snipnorthants.org

Special Needs - Informed Parents

Springfield, Cliftonville,
Northampton, NN1 5BE
Tel: 01604 636111

or

Fairlawn Centre, Spring Gardens
Wellingborough, NN8 2AA
Tel: 01933 271673

Fax: 01604 630283

e-mail: contact@snipnorthants.org

This information can be made available in other languages and formats upon request.