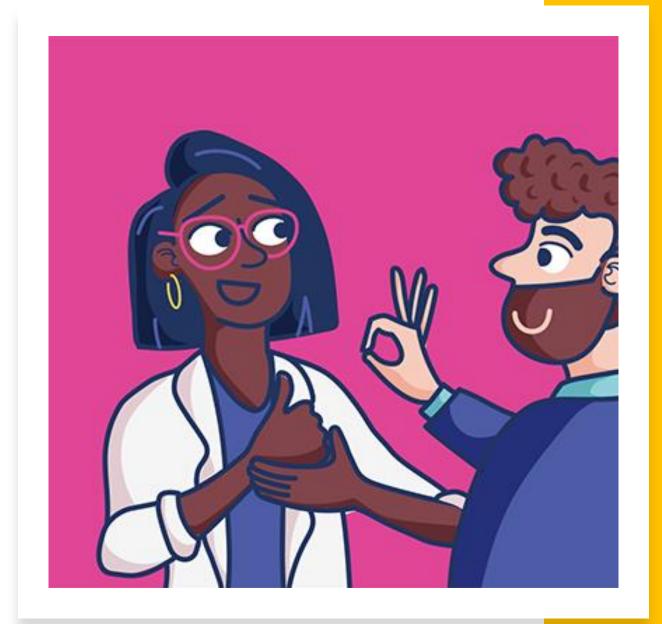# Deaf Awareness Week 2024
6th to 12th May

Please do take some time to look through the RNID resources, we have included a selection in this presentation please follow the link below for the full website presentation from the RNID

Deaf Awareness Week 2024: save the date - RNID

Let's celebrate Deaf Awareness Week 2024

- This is an annual celebration and recognition of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing Community in the UK

- Raising awareness helps to promote inclusion of all Deaf/Hard of Hearing people into their schools, shops, workplaces, public amenities

Deaf Awareness tips for successful communication and inclusion:

- **Re-phrase what you said**

- If someone doesn't understand you, repeat what you said or phrase it differently, use plain language.

- **Face the person you're speaking to**

- Make sure you are facing the person you are talking to and speak clearly – avoid shouting, speaking too fast or unnecessarily slow.

- **Use an interpreter**

- You should always follow the advice of the person with communication needs. If that's booking an interpreter or speaking to a friend or relative.

- **Write it down**

- Use pen on paper, text on device screens, or whiteboards to write what you want to say.

- **Get their full attention**

- Use simple gestures such as pointing or waving to get someone's attention.

- **Reduce background noise**

- In a noisy place, move to a quieter area if possible.

What is BSL? British Sign Language

- **British Sign Language is the most common form of sign language in the UK. It was recognised as a language in its own right in 2003 and legally as an official language of Britain in 2022.**

- British Sign Language (BSL) involves a combination of hand shapes and movements, lip patterns, facial expressions and shoulder movements. It has its own grammar and is structured in a completely different way from English.

- In BSL, you start with the main subject or topic. After that, you refer to something about the topic – for example:

- English: What is your name?

- BSL: Name – what?