

All about communication! This month the spotlight is on presentation skills and the long term success of implementing British Sign Language into our programme.

Learning & Skills

Digital Skills Presentations



From Beginners to Presenters!

After popular demand, we launched our new Digital Skills sessions! Our young adults have been exploring the world of Microsoft Office, mastering the tools that help them communicate in the modern world. Over the last 4 weeks, the focus has been on PowerPoint Foundations, and the results have been fantastic.

Our young adults learned how to build professional presentations from scratch. Every student demonstrated proficiency in choosing high-contrast colors and "friendly fonts" for accessibility as well as adding transitions between slides and animations to make images move. A few confident participants even successfully integrated Hyperlinks to connect their slides to a YouTube video related to their topic!

Health and Wellbeing

Communication and BSL



At Access Ability, communication, team building and British Sign Language has been a cornerstone of our provision since the start. Most of the young adults who walk through our door begin as complete beginners, starting off with finger-spelling. Now, they are all working on their signing in a BSL introductory course. Our participants have become signing superstars, developing the skills to confidently hold basic conversations in BSL.

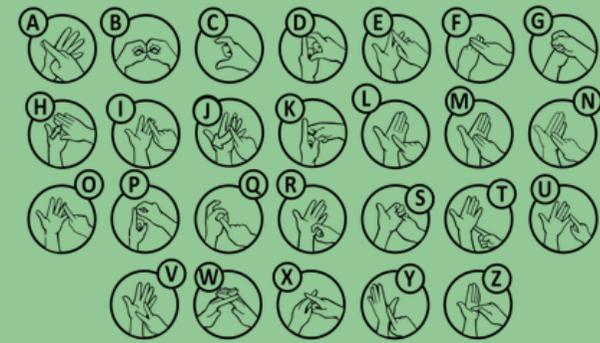
BSL teaches our young adults a brand-new language and opens up a new method of communication for them. In particular, it has massively boosted the confidence of our non-verbal individuals, as it offers a powerful new way to express their thoughts, needs, and personalities without barriers.



The highlight of the project was the Presentation Session where each young adult stood in front of their peers to present their work. We saw in real-time how this massively boosted their confidence and public speaking skills, especially for the people who were a little nervous at first. The room was full of support, and every presenter received a huge round of applause for their hard work and technical courage.

What's Next?

Now that we have conquered Microsoft Office, we are moving into the creative world of Canva and Digital Design. Our digital skills participants will spend the next four weeks creating elements which will be put together to build their very own websites!



British Sign Language (BSL) Alphabet

Alongside BSL, we have been running communication and team building games featuring activities such as BSL Chinese whispers and working in pairs to describe an image and draw it. These sessions focus on active listening, problem solving, and social confidence.

Due to the success of our core group, we have also implemented BSL into our Positive Pathways sessions for jobseekers, enabling even more young adults to be able to learn this valuable skill and add it to their CVs.

