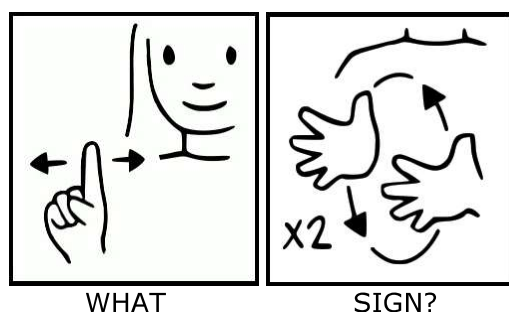


# USEFUL TIPS FOR ALL STAFF

1. If Deaf students use Auslan with Auslan grammar while conversing with you, please do not correct or change their Auslan grammar to an English sentence structure. They are using Auslan Grammar which is the recognised language of the Deaf community in Australia.
2. If you would like to help your students become aware what the English sentence structure looks like (as part of their learning the English language), try teaching them in this way: "YOUR AUSLAN IS GREAT, THIS IS WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE IN ENGLISH SENTENCE ORDER, THIS IS HOW THE HEARING PEOPLE SAY IT" This will help clarify to the student that there are two languages, one is in Auslan and the other is using Auslan in an English sentence order if you want to emphasis on teaching English itself while using Auslan.
3. The best time to correct their use of English sentence structure is when they are in an English class, and the aim of the class is to focus on English itself, either by reading, speaking, or writing.
4. Lastly, an useful tip, the more exposed Deaf students are to reading books and writing stories, the more their English will improve naturally. Try to figure out ways to make them enjoy reading books, by offering books that you feel will suit their level of learning and interest. Comic books are also a good way to start, as it includes pictures (each picture is worth a thousand words), and speech bubbles which includes English.
5. If you don't know a sign, ask an Auslan signing student, "WHAT SIGN" and then fingerspell the word. Your asking them is a confidence booster for the student, and will also set a good example for other students to ask the Deaf student for signs. It will open up the door for more inclusion in the classroom.

*What's the sign for*



To help Deaf students understand you better, please feel free to be as creative as you can be and include:

1. Miming, acting or role modelling as often where needed
2. Facial expressions to show how you're feeling. Sometimes a facial expression is all that is needed to convey meaning, and there is no need to sign at all, for example,

*Don't do this!* (a warning look with raised eyebrows, slight shaking head)

*Go ahead and try!* (an encouraging look with a nodding head)

*Look at him* (raise your eyebrows, and nod your head towards the desired person)

*Be careful!* (a concerned look with a frown, show your teeth)

*Wait please* (if your hands are busy, use raised eyebrows and mouthing the word, "WAIT")