

British Sign Language in schools

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Riaghaltas na h-Alba
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Early Years & Education

- Instruct Scotland's National Centre for Languages to lead a programme of work to support BSL learning for hearing pupils
 - BSL part of language offer under 1+2 policy
 - Information, guidance & sharing good practice
 - Expert advisory group to recommend longer term strategy to support teaching of BSL & measure progress



Where are we now?

- Boost L3 offer
- Work towards robust L2 offer
- Identifying good practice
- QMU – ITE model
- Consistency & collaboration - ?
- Increasing demand & interest



Other considerations

- Not just about hearing children
 - deaf parents – engagement, involvement
 - deaf children – L1 (& families)
- Communication tools & forms
- Sustainability & commitment to
 - BSL
 - 1+2 languages policy



Immediate priorities

- Develop resources for L3
- Increase capacity
 - Short-term: BSL tutors alongside teachers
 - Longer-term: BSL teachers
 - Training
 - Employment
- Involvement of deaf people
 - Creating opportunities - collaboration



Over to you

- Want? Can? – why
- What's holding things back?
- What's needed?
- Immediate next steps?
 - You
 - Your LA
 - Others
- Any general concerns?

