

Communication Tips

- Find out the Deaf person's preferred communication method
- Make sure you face the Deaf person – 3 to 6 ft apart.
- Do not move round, or turn away while talking
- Be prepared to have an interpreter/lipspeaker beside you
- Make sure you have the Deaf person's attention before you start talking
- Do not stand in front of a light or window
- Do not shout
- Speak clearly, a bit slower
- Maintain eye contact throughout
- Wave, stamp, or gently tap, to attract attention
- If a word is not understood, use different words with the same meaning
- Provide visual aids where possible
- Avoid unusual words
- Do not speak all at once
- *Do not give up!*