Target Audience

Care and Support staff in a variety of settings and Housing Support Teams who are providing direct care and support.

This course provides a practical introduction to the Makaton Language Programme.

Sessions include teaching Makaton signs and symbols, discussing commonly asked questions about Makaton, hints and tips for effective signing and symbol use and how to start using Makaton in everyday situations at home or work.

This course is delivered using a range of methods and resources including:

- Live tutor facilitation, video clips, signing and symbol practise, scenarios for group work, questioning and participation.

This course has been developed by the Makaton Charity and is run by a licenced Makaton tutor.

The Makaton Charity recommends a maximum 10-12 learners ((11 learners maximum for online training) to ensure adequate signing instruction support per learner. Participant manuals are integral to the Level 1 course and must be distributed to all learners.

Course Content

- Experiencing the impact of communicating without speech or the written word
- The history and design of the Makaton Language Programme
- The structure of Makaton signing and its place in the Signing World
- Signs and symbols from stages 1 and 2 and half of the Additional Vocabulary
- Techniques to make signing an effective method of communication
- Makaton's role in multi-modal communication
- Design of Makaton symbols and how they are used
- Activities to practice signs and symbols

Learning Outcomes

After attending this course, learners will be able to:

- State the history, design and structure of Makaton and the Makaton Core Vocabulary
- Be able to use signs and symbols from Stages 1,2 and half the Additional Vocabulary in their daily environment, and use techniques for placement, directionality, and movement
- Describe how the signs used with the Makaton Vocabulary are derived
- Give an overview of the different approaches available to develop the communication skills of a wide range of Makaton users
- State other Makaton Training Courses and Workshops available

Duration: 7-8 hours online, split into 2 modules over a one day or more