



HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT WORKING WITH DEAF CHILDREN?

Deaf Direct can provide information on many topics related to deafness e.g. equipment, training, employment, tinnitus, recreational activities and sign language. We receive many requests for information about career opportunities for working with deaf children and this fact sheet outlines some careers choices that you may not have considered before. If you would like to discuss any of them in more detail then please contact us. Your career choice and the communication method of the deaf child may require you to also develop British Sign Language skills.

Teachers of the Deaf: There is currently a great demand for suitably qualified teachers for deaf children. Many of the children that have a hearing loss will require specialist teaching to achieve their educational potential. As well as a conventional teacher training qualification an additional course would be required before becoming a 'Teacher of the Deaf'.

Speech and Language Therapy: To become a speech therapist usually requires training at degree level or above, typically for 3-4 years. Courses are offered nationally and it is best to contact the universities and colleges themselves to enquire about course content and duration. There are certainly many opportunities for work with deaf people in this area.

Audiology: There are a variety of careers available in the area of audiology for both children and adults. These include technical support and assessment, testing levels of hearing and fitting hearing aids (for example). Work may be based within hospitals, health centres, schools or in the community.

Voluntary work: There are many charities offering services for deaf children, including Deaf Direct, who encourage volunteers to participate in events for deaf children. If you would like information about volunteer opportunities at Deaf Direct then please get in touch.