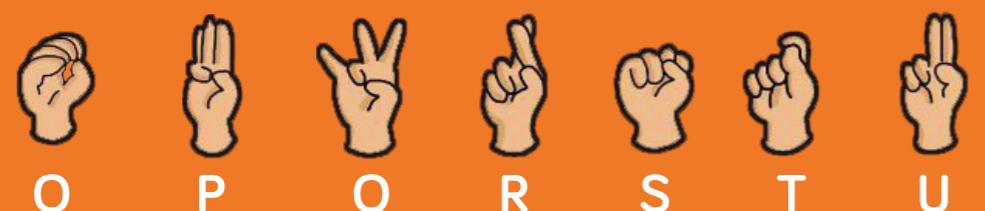
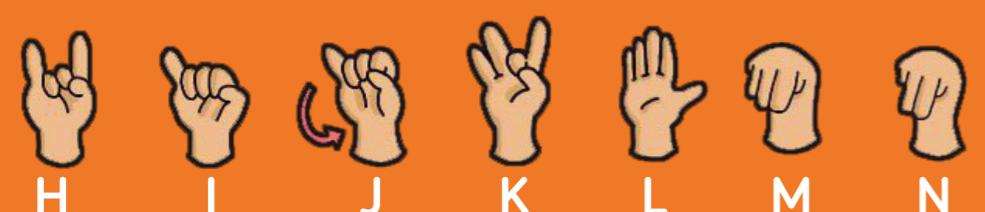
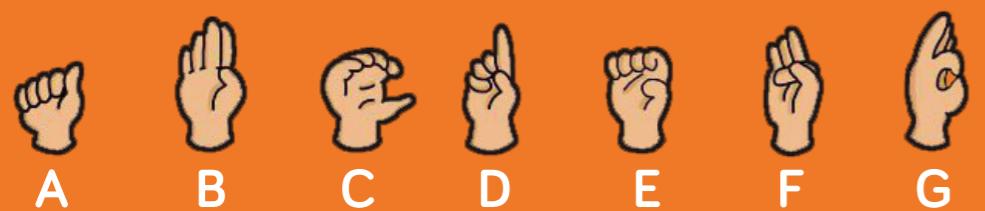


The Irish Sign Language alphabet



Hobbies



Sign



I S L

Basic greetings



Famous deaf people

1. Rose Ayling-Ellis (actor)
2. Thomas Edison (inventor)
3. Helen Keller (activist)
4. Marlee Matlin (actor)
5. Nyle DiMarco (model, actor and deaf activist)
6. Hermon & Heroda Berhane (lifestyle bloggers)
7. Rikki Poynter (YouTuber)
8. Chella Man (activist)



Weather



Facts about Irish Sign Language (ISL)

Irish Sign Language (ISL) is a visual language which has its own grammar, syntax, lexicon, and history.

Sign language is not international. There are hundreds of sign languages around the world. They are independent languages and are different to English and to each other just as Japanese is different to French.

ISL is different to all other signed languages such as British Sign Language, American Sign Language etc.

Irish Sign Language is the first and/or preferred language of 5000 deaf people in Ireland and approximately 40,000 people in general communicate in ISL (family, friends, co-workers, etc).

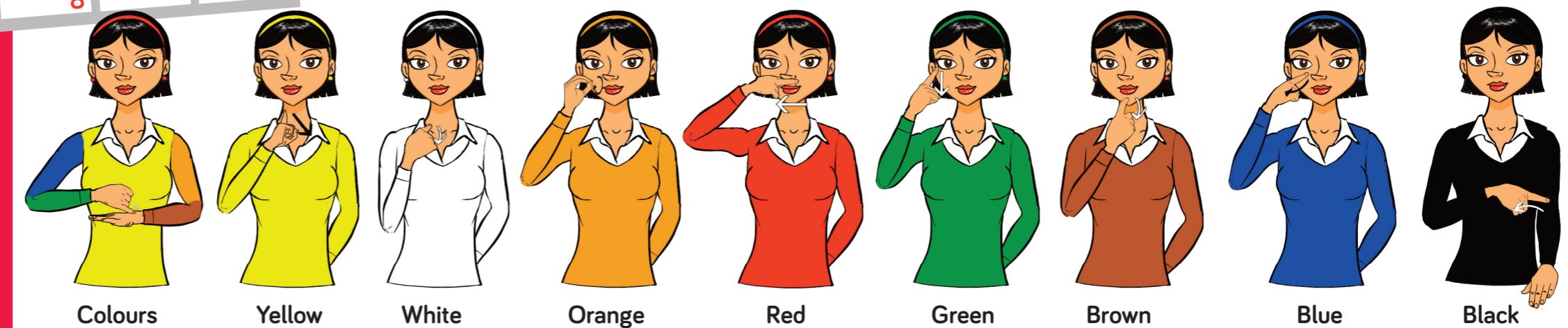
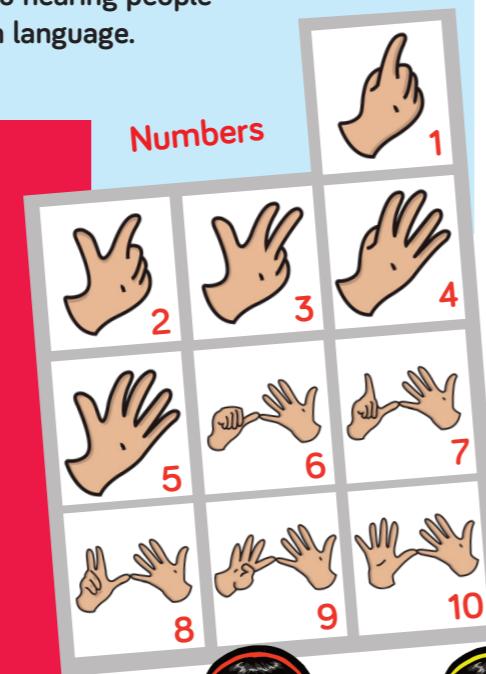
Members of a Deaf community may not all be necessarily deaf themselves. They can be hearing children of deaf adults and hearing people working with the deaf community who use sign language.

December 14th is National ISL Day.

Communicating with Deaf people

Here are some simple tips to help communicating with deaf/hard of hearing people to optimise communication.

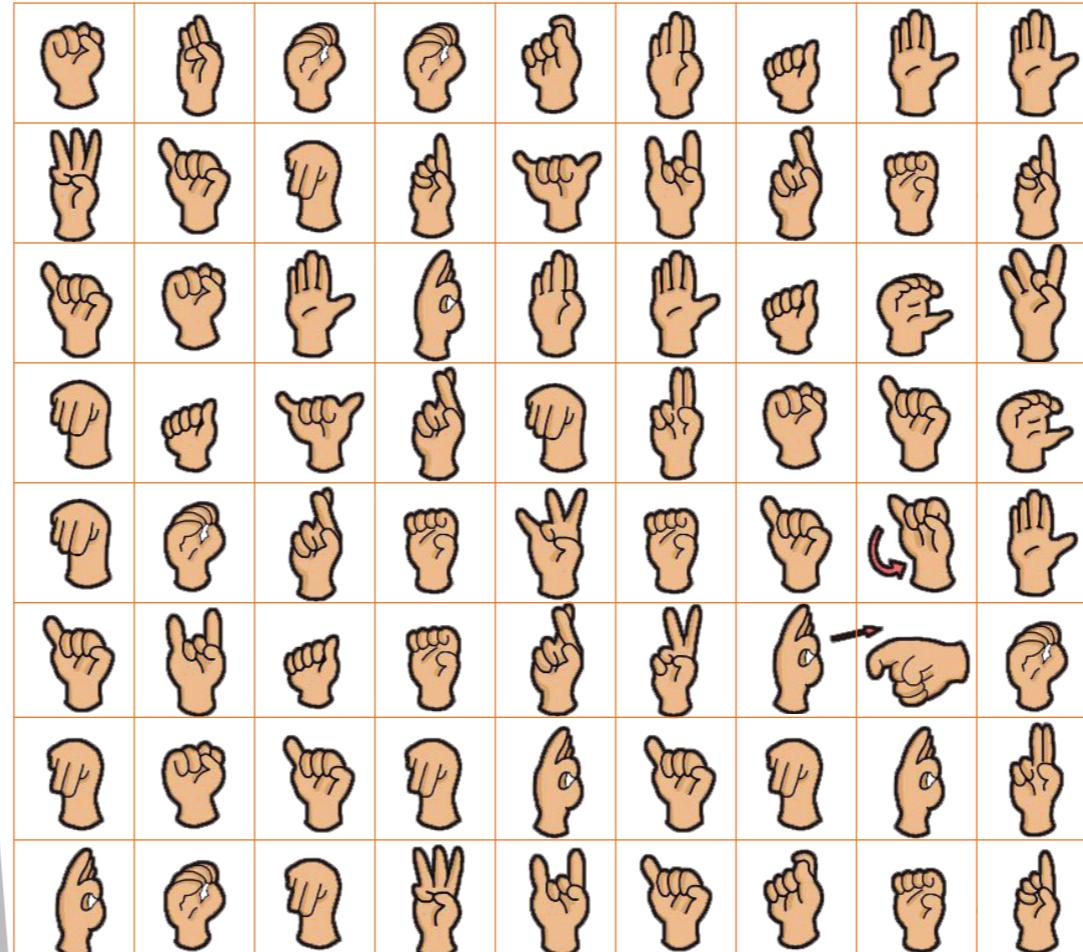
- Sign clearly, slowly, and steadily.
- To catch someone's attention, it is ok to wave or to touch by lightly tapping a person's shoulder.
- In a large group or classroom setting, flashing a light switch can help to capture attention.
- You should always face the person when talking, look directly at them and do not look away.
- Avoid standing in front of a light source as it can make it difficult to see your face clearly.
- Take turns – if there is more than one person in a conversation takes turns to talk.
- Don't cover your face or mouth, mumble, shout, or exaggerate your mouth pattern.



Word Search

Find these words in the word search.

Rain Music Swimming Blue Windy Singing
Sign Green Cloud Football ISL White



Languages Connect promotes the many advantages of learning foreign languages – making new friends, learning about new cultures and places, finding more interesting jobs, and lots more.

Knowing a foreign language is fun and it opens your mind to the wider world. Right now in Ireland, foreign language skills are more important than ever – we need to keep connecting with new and exciting global opportunities.

You'll find information about bringing languages to life, events, advice from industry experts, real-life stories of Irish people who use languages in their careers every day, and lots more on languagesconnect.ie

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