

## BSL Primary Curriculum Meeting Record

13<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Topic: Recap & Year 5 & 6 Learning Outcomes

### Recap of BSL Development across the UK:

- ★ BSL GCSE: Continues to be with Signature on hold. As we know, the NDCS is campaigning for this to be provided.
- ★ BSL Awards in Scotland (SQA-SCQF): Continues to be provided across Scotland, the awards can be seen on their website and the framework can be downloaded for schools to use.
- ★ BSL in Wales: The Welsh Qualifications authority are reviewing their entire GCSE framework in all subjects and the good news is that they have added BSL to their list of subjects. They have received applications and set up working groups for each subject e.g. English, Maths, Science etc including BSL. I have joined the BSL Welsh Working Group amongst other professionals. We have liaised on information building and our first meeting will take place in December to focus on the framework.
- ★ BSL Curriculum Working Group: Where we left off pre-Covid was the completion of our Primary Curriculum. However unfortunately we paused on reviewing the Year 5&6 outcomes due to Covid for the last 2 years. We continue to receive various contacts asking for information or a copy of the curriculum – we have maintained that once we have confirmed the curriculum in its entirety, we will roll this out to all. For now, we will continue to keep this within the working group.
- ★ British Deaf Association (BDA): Catherine Drew has been in discussions with Tom Lichy and Professor Graham Turner, Policy and Research Leads for the BDA – they were appointed into post and have already been in touch with various professionals about the support the BDA can provide. We discussed the history of the BSL Curriculum and GCSE and its progression. Feedback that we would like a stronger link between our working group and the organisations e.g. NDCS and Signature to push for the BSL Curriculum AND BSL GCSE on the government's agenda.

One topic for discussion is the need for qualified BSL teachers – this has been an ongoing discussion for everyone. All agreed that teaching BSL in schools is a priority, the qualification of teachers in an ideal world would be a Deaf and BSL user, BSL Level 6 qualified and Qualified Teacher's Status. However the expectation for a lot of schools e.g. Deaf schools is to recruit teachers who have BSL Level 3 – we should apply the same expectations. In terms of QTS – a lot of BSL Teachers do not have QTS and as such may be recruited at the school's discretion e.g. unqualified teacher or as a BSL Tutor/Deaf Instructor. This is for various reasons e.g. cost for the courses, English-BSL barriers. We agreed that we would include our recommendations in our BSL Curriculum foreword for teachers to have:

- QTS
- BSL Level 3
- Linguistics in BSL

Catherine will feedback to the BDA our suggestion as the BDA are considering producing a 'register' of BSL teachers (like the Teacher Register) as a temporary measure until more teachers become qualified and join the teachers' register.

Year 5 and 6 BSL Curriculum: All reviewed the learning outcomes and made our final amendments. This will be typed up and sent out as a draft to be used within our settings. This as previously discussed is not to be shared with the wider community yet until we have all reviewed and agreed on the outcomes.

As per our ongoing agreement, we will all make notes on the outcomes from our teaching, pupils' learning and progression and bring this with us when we review in 2023.

Information Sharing: We have been contacted by various professionals asking to join us which is great. We are conscious that there may be others across the UK who may not be aware of the working we are doing and/or may be duplicating a 'curriculum' for their setting. If you know of anyone who may be interested or should be part of the group – please do pass on our contact details and share information.

Action Plan: We have a 2-Year Action Plan starting from now where our aim is to roll out the BSL Curriculum in its entirety to all by December 2023. The plan is as follows:  
For the 2022 – 2023 Academic Year, we will have 2-monthly meetings:

- ★ Year 5 & 6 Finalise – October 2022
- ★ Year 7 – December 2022
- ★ Year 8 – January 2023
- ★ Year 9 – March 2023
- ★ Year 10 – May 2023
- ★ Year 11 – July 2023

In the 2023 – 2024 Academic Year, the final stage of the action plan is as follows:

- ★ September 2023 – Review Primary & Secondary Curriculum
- ★ October 2023 – Foreword/Illustrations/Full Curriculum
- ★ November 2023 - Proofread
- ★ December 2023 – LAUNCH – Roll Out

For the launch/roll-out, we will look to invite various Deaf and Mainstream media, organisations, schools, settings, professionals and the community. Prior to the roll-out, we will discuss this further.

Meeting Dates: All meetings will take place on Thursday mornings, 9.30am-12pm. Our confirmed meeting dates for 2022-2023 is:

- ★ Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022
- ★ Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023
- ★ Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023
- ★ Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023
- ★ Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022, 9.30am-12pm.**

Links:

Our 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting update is on:

Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/reel/CkgBI2VD364/?utm\\_source=ig\\_web\\_copy\\_link](https://www.instagram.com/reel/CkgBI2VD364/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link)

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