



TIPS TO ENSURE A CHILDCARE CENTRE IS ASL FRIENDLY

Reduce Visual, Tactile, and Auditory Distractions for Deaf Children

- ✔ Have your ASL consultant check the suitability of the environment. Deaf children are easily distracted by auditory, tactile, and visual noise.
- ✔ Add tennis balls to the bottoms of tables and chairs.
- ✔ Add more area rugs to cover hard surfaced floor.
- ✔ Staff can dress in one-toned colour, preferably in dark or neutral tones.

Increase Language Exposure and Social Interaction for Deaf Children

- ✔ Bring ASL learning materials for staff and kids, post ASL handshapes and signs in the class, and have ASL books available.
- ✔ Encourage the staff to attend ASL classes.
- ✔ Encourage the hiring of Deaf staff.
- ✔ Give the Deaf child the opportunity to interact with others by frequently partnering them with different children.
- ✔ Ensure the staff directly face the Deaf child and are always signing to the child so that they are included.
- ✔ Have ASL activities each day for everyone.

