

# AUSLAN



## What is AUSLAN?

Australian Sign Language is the contemporary visual-spatial language of an Australian linguistic minority group, the Australian Deaf community. While it is derived from British Sign Language, Auslan has developed into a unique Australian language characterised by its own grammar and lexicon. Auslan does not have a written form and is a highly contextualised language.

The study of Auslan contributes to the overall education of students, particularly in:

- ⇒ Communication
- ⇒ Cross-cultural understanding
- ⇒ Literacy
- ⇒ General knowledge.



Auslan includes a variety of grammatical features:

- ⇒ Hand shape
- ⇒ Location
- ⇒ Movement
- ⇒ Orientation
- ⇒ Non manual features; eg facial expression

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Our **ROLE** is to empower learners for individual, community and global leadership.

We value **Respect, Optimism, Learning and Environment**.

## Curriculum and assessment

- ⇒ Students learn to communicate using Auslan in a variety of ways in different situations.
- ⇒ They must become proficient in both expressive (signing) and receptive (reading what others are signing) skills.
- ⇒ Students are assessed from Outcomes which are specific tasks to be done on video.
- ⇒ Students are marked according to fluency, accuracy of signs, use of facial expressions and appropriate grammatical structures.

## Why is learning Auslan of benefit?

- ⇒ Because in any business, it is an advantage to be bi-lingual.
- ⇒ There are over 10,000 signing deaf people living in Australia.
- ⇒ Deaf people will travel miles to see a service provider who uses Auslan.
- ⇒ You can also employ deaf staff in your own business.

## Some specific careers where Auslan can be used:

- ⇒ Teacher of the Deaf
- ⇒ Speech pathologist
- ⇒ Interpreter
- ⇒ Counsellor
- ⇒ Psychologist



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