



*Signature*

**Level 3 in British Sign Language**  
Welcome booklet 2020/21

# Welcome

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Thank you for choosing Signature!

Since we began our work to promote and teach British Sign Language (BSL) in 1982, we've supported more than 440,000 people to both learn BSL and communicate more effectively.

We are proud of the challenges and opportunities our qualifications provide. It's because of this that our candidates, people just like you, go on to become the most confident communicators and highly-skilled professionals.

2020 has been a challenging year for us all. Like many other businesses, Signature has adapted to a new way of working. We are stronger than ever, and continue to be the leading awarding body for deaf communication qualifications.

We have been working on offering online assessments to our learners. This is an exciting development for us, and we're sure you'll agree that this will provide enhanced accessibility for everyone going forward.

From everyone at Signature, we hope that you enjoy studying with us, and we wish you luck in your future exams.

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Lindsay Foster  
Executive Director



# An introduction to Signature

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## "Signature is the leading awarding body for deaf communication in the UK"

At Signature, we are passionate about improving communication between deaf, deafblind and hearing people, and creating better communities in the process. We want to make sure that deaf and deafblind people have the same opportunities as everyone else, and the same access to education, employment and services.

We employ highly skilled people and experts such as staff, consultants and suppliers to make sure that our centres and learners gain the strongest qualifications on the market, and receive the best customer experience.

It is by offering these qualifications that we can help to make sure the standard of support that deaf people receive is the best it can be.

Working regularly with expert consultants and native BSL users means that our assessments have the highest quality of language and content.

## Did you know?

- All of our qualifications are accredited by Ofqual.
- Our first accredited qualification was in 2001 following the creation of the National Qualifications Framework (NQF).
- Over 430,000 people have taken our qualifications.
- CACDP re-branded to Signature in 2009.
- 76% of candidates passed their level 3 qualification in 2019

# BSLHomework3

Online BSL training to help you practice  
your skills outside the classroom



95% of BSLHomework users would  
recommend to a friend.

75% of BSLHomework users said it  
improved their skills.

**AVAILABLE NOW**

[www.signaturelearninghub.co.uk](http://www.signaturelearninghub.co.uk)

# Level 3 in British Sign Language

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By studying Level 3 in British Sign Language with Signature, you will further develop your skills in BSL and become a competent communicator. Building upon the vocabulary and grammar learnt within level 1 and level 2, learners will be able to understand and use varied BSL in a range of work and social situations.

## Qualification structure

Candidates must demonstrate both receptive and productive BSL skills at level 3, and in all of the six topics that make up this qualification.

Assessments may cover any of the topics listed in this qualification. The natural context of using BSL is in two-way interactions (discussions, conversations, debates etc.), as well as one-way interactions (monologues, presentations etc.). The candidate is therefore expected to demonstrate receptive and productive skills in both two-way and one-way interactions.

## Qualification objectives

Successful completion of this qualification can be used as evidence of the language skills needed in order to be able to operate independently and at an advanced level in the target language.

It is useful for those who work on a regular basis with Deaf people (for example social workers, teachers of the Deaf, communicators, voluntary workers, workers within Deaf organisations, schools, etc), those who aspire to work in these contexts, and those who wish to expand their knowledge and skills in British Sign Language.

To find out more information about your Level 1 qualification, visit:

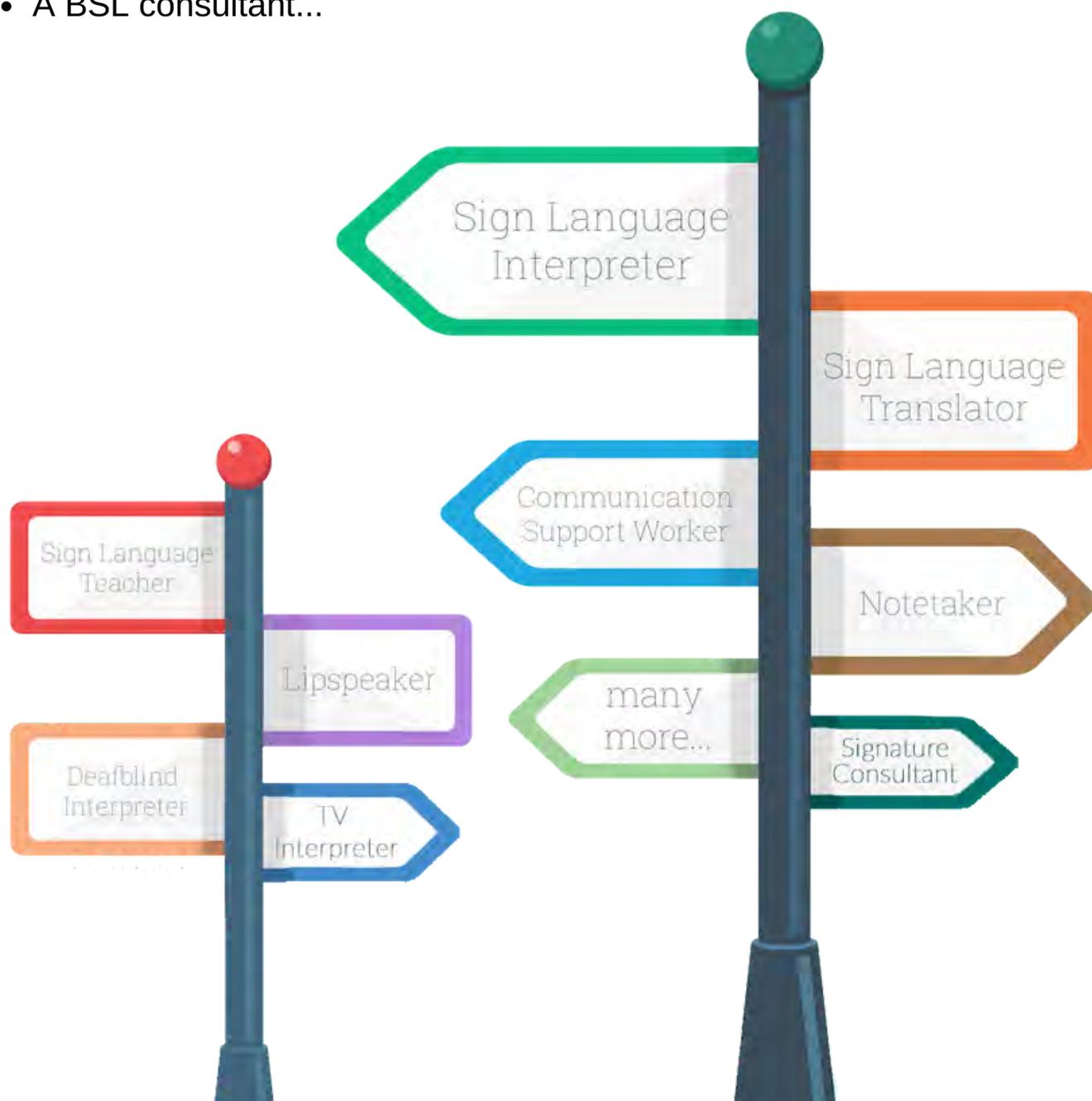
[www.signature.org.uk/british-sign-language](http://www.signature.org.uk/british-sign-language)

# Where could a Signature qualification take you?

A British Sign Language qualification opens the door to many exciting opportunities...

[www.signature.org.uk/career-paths](http://www.signature.org.uk/career-paths)

- TV star?
- A teacher?
- A communication support worker?
- A BSL consultant...



# What support is available?

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The Signature Learning Hub is Signature's training platform. Here you will find BSLHomework, teacher training, CPD activities and SignSpell, our BSL product for primary school aged children.

## BSLHomework1-2-3

BSLHomework is accessed via the Signature Learning Hub and is a comprehensive online library of video clips and support materials to help you understand the assessments, develop your vocabulary and linguistics skills, and practice your receptive BSL skills from wherever you are.

Developed by BSL teachers and experts, BSLHomework is the perfect training resource for anyone studying Level 1, 2 or 3 in British Sign Language.

With over 500 short stories in BSL presented by Deaf people from across the UK and questions to test you, it helps you practice what you have been taught in the classroom. You will also find filmed assessment examples and tips, and a BSL dictionary with over 2,000 words.

- BSLHomework is available 24/7 on a range of devices.
- 75% of users said it improved their BSL skills.
- 100% of BSLHomework3 users said it was good value for money.



# Study Tips

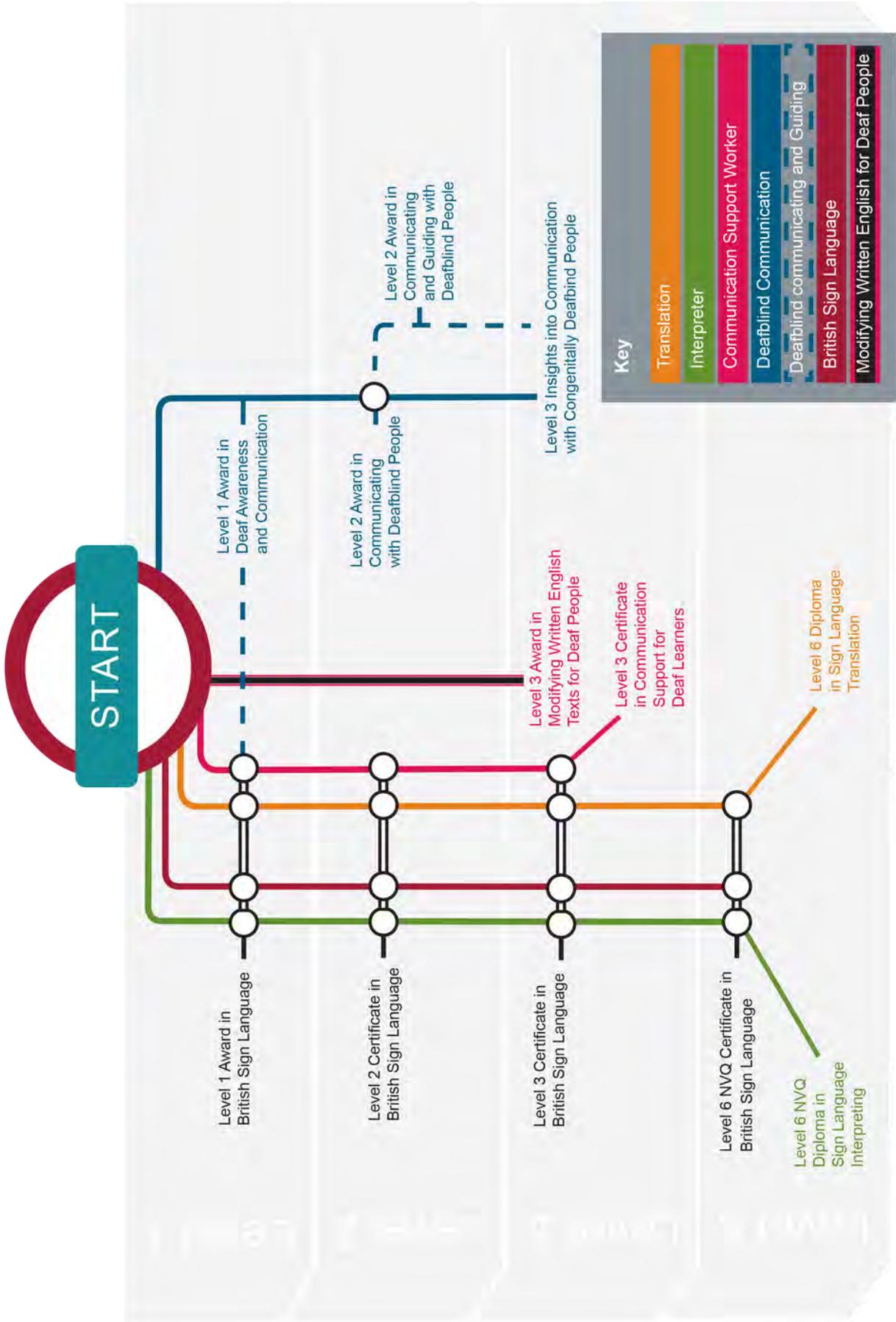
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Based on feedback from Signature candidates who have recently gained their BSL qualifications, we have compiled a list of useful study tips to help you get the most out of your learning experience.



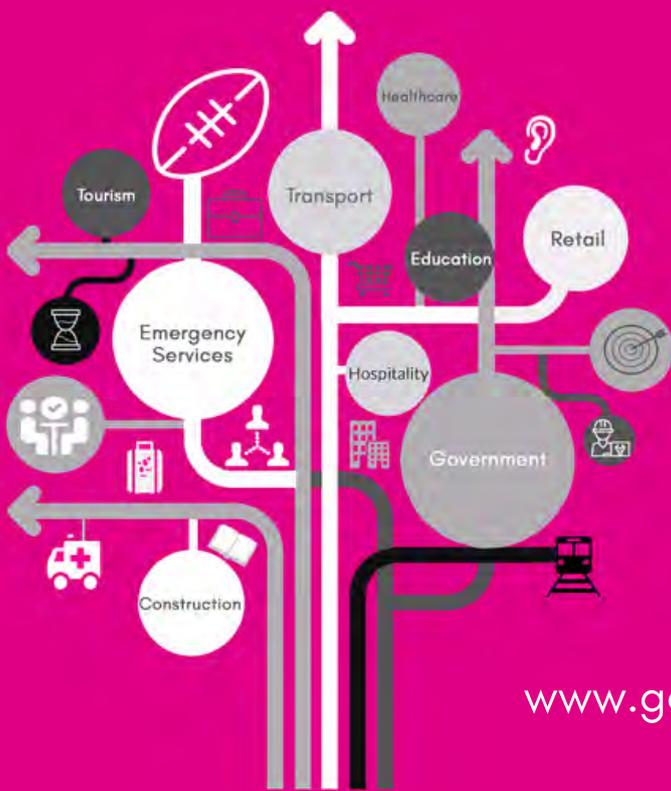
- 1 Stick flashcards in important places
- 2 Repeat, repeat, repeat!
- 3 Use BSLHomework to practice your skills and revise for you exams
- 4 Write down sentence structures in sign order
- 5 Go to Deaf-led events and clubs to practice and improve your skills
- 6 Practice, practice, practice!
- 7 Sign to yourself in a mirror to see facial expression
- 8 Enjoy the learning experience!

# Progression routes



# Your exam results

- We aim to release results to your course provider within six weeks of your assessment. They will then notify you directly of your results.
- We are unable to give assessment results to students, so if you do not receive your results within the six weeks you will need to contact your course provider.
- If you disagree with your assessment result you should contact your course provider immediately to discuss this with them. If your course provider agrees with you they will then have eight weeks from the date your result is released to appeal on your behalf.
- If you pass your exam we will issue you with your certificate. We aim to issue certificates to your course provider within four weeks of releasing your results. Your course provider will then make arrangements for you to receive it.
- You should contact your course provider in the first instance if you have any questions, queries or complaints relating to your course, assessments or results. If required the course provider will then contact us on your behalf.



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# FAQ's

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We know that getting the right level of support is important to you. We have put together this list of frequently asked questions to help you find your answer quickly and as easily as possible.

## **How long will the course be?**

All of our qualifications are unit based with recommended learning hours for each unit.

It is up to the individual course providers to decide timescales for delivery of our qualifications. Once you have decided on the qualification that you want to learn, and have found your nearest course provider, you will need to contact them directly to find out the timescales.

## **How much will the course cost?**

Individual approved course providers will set their own costs for studying with them. Once you have found the nearest course provider to you please contact them directly for these details.

## **Who should I contact if I have any questions, queries or complaints?**

You should contact your course provider in the first instance if you have any questions, queries or complaints relating to your course, assessments or results. If required the course provider will then contact us on your behalf.

## **Can I continue my studies upon completion of my course?**

Should you wish to continue your journey with Signature, you can choose to move onto the next level in BSL; perhaps at your current centre. If it is not available at your current centre, we can help you find another one for you.

If you can't find an answer to your question or would like more information, please get in touch. Email [communications@signature.org.uk](mailto:communications@signature.org.uk) or call 0191 383 1155

# Welcome

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We are proud of the challenges and opportunities our qualifications provide. It's because of this that our candidates, people just like you, go on to become the most confident communicators and highly-skilled professionals.

2020 has been a challenging year for us all. Like many other businesses, Signature has learned to adapt to this new way of working. We are proud of the new services that we are able to offer our centres and learners.

We now offer online assessments for learners. If you are interested in finding out some more information, please contact your centre.

From everyone at Signature, we hope that you enjoy studying our qualifications, and we wish you luck in your future exams.

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Lindsay Foster  
Executive Director



# Get in touch



0191 383 1155

[www.signature.org.uk](http://www.signature.org.uk)

[customersupport@signature.org.uk](mailto:customersupport@signature.org.uk)

Search Signature Deaf:

