

The BSL Symposium

Launching a national BSL Strategy and the BSL Alliance: The UK Debate on the future of BSL

Monday 19th March Holiday Inn, Bloomsbury, London

Is BSL on the way out? Some people would argue that while there are Deaf people, there will always be sign language. Maybe. Let's look at the evidence. Many deaf children of hearing parents are now growing up without any BSL. Or if they use signing, it is BSL. Where are the Deaf young people training to become BSL teachers? Most of the BSL teachers now are over 50 and many will soon retire. Who will train our next generation of interpreters? More importantly, who will be around to pass on BSL to future generations of Deaf children? Maybe BSL will be reduced to a few Deaf families with deaf children, like with some other spoken languages that are dying out? Should we campaign for a legal recognition of BSL and Bi-Lingual Education for Deaf children?

The BDA is hosting the BSL Symposium in March 2012. The BSL Symposium aims to launch the BDA's National BSL Strategy in January or February and will ask organisations to join a new BSL Alliance. Together we can then start to look at how to preserve BSL for future generations.

university department, a Deaf club or Deaf group, a service provider to Deaf people, a local authority supporting our BSL Charter, or a Deaf-led business teaching BSL. Any organisation or Deaf professional that cares about BSL is welcome to join the BSL Alliance.

Who can join? Any organisation that has an interest in preserving BSL – a mainstream school with deaf pupils, a

Contact bslsymposium@bda.org.uk for more information or to book your place.

BSL Symposium - Delegate Charge (per person, including workshops, lunch, breaks)

Charities /Clubs	under £250,000 a year	£100
	£250k to £500k a year	£115
	£500k to £1m a year	£130
	over £1m a year	£145
Statutory Organisation		£150
Corporate Organisations		£175
Individual Professional		£100

Exhibition

Exhibition	Charity/Club Standard Rate for the day	£100
	Statutory Standard Rate	£150
	Corporate Standard Rate	£200

Sponsorship Opportunities

For sponsorship opportunities email bslsymposium@bda.org.uk or phone 0207 405 0090. Speak to Sallyann or Kevin.