

Hints and tips on working with British Sign Language Interpreters

If at all possible please provide an outline/headings of your talk and/or any technical terminology so that the interpreter can prepare relevant specialist vocabulary, difficult names, etc. (joseharrap@yahoo.com)

In general:

- Speak directly to members of the group and establish/maintain eye contact even when the student is looking at the interpreter.
- Use first person ie 'Do you?' rather than adopt the third person eg 'Do they want to know this?'
- Speak naturally but at a reasonable pace. The interpreter will usually lag 1 or 2 sentences behind you in order to process the information.
- Allow ample time for reading slides or other materials. Students cannot read and watch interpreter at same time.