

# Children in Scotland submission of 9 March 2022

## PE1867/E Establish a new national qualification for British Sign Language (BSL)

Thank you very much for your correspondence of the 7 February re the establishment of a new national qualification for British Sign Language and thank you for getting touch with us on this issue.

I am sorry it has taken some time to get back to you on this. Unfortunately, we have had a few recent resourcing challenges due to COVID-19 (among other reasons). I did get in touch with a brief email earlier and was hoping maybe to have a quick conversation, but I didn't hear back, so I didn't want to leave it any longer before sending you this response.

While we are always keen to input when asked, we think it is important that we do so from a well-informed position. BSL is not an area we have directly worked on and has not been something raised by the Inclusion Ambassadors as a priority area for us. The Inclusion Ambassadors network is a network of young people with additional support needs and was formed to ensure the views of young people with additional support needs are heard in discussions about education policy.

We feel that it would be better to seek input from Derek Todd at the [Scottish Sensory Hub](#) who is the lead BSL consultant with the [Alliance](#). His email is [derek.todd@alliance-scotland.org.uk](mailto:derek.todd@alliance-scotland.org.uk).

Sorry not to be more helpful, but please do get in touch in the future if we can be a potentially useful resource.