

I am Deaf
Let's 
talk

25 Signs to Learn for
EMERGENCIES

deaf.org.nz



National Emergency
Management Agency
Te Rākau Whakamarumaru



Auckland
Emergency Management
Te Kōwhiri Mātā Ohōta o Tāmaki Makaurau

HELLO I'm James

I work at Deaf Aotearoa. I have a Deaf wife, and we have two kids. I love them very much! Sports and travelling are my passions. I come from a Deaf family, and we are part of the Deaf community. I am proud of my language and culture!

Have a look through this booklet to learn some New Zealand Sign Language that will help you communicate with a Deaf person in the event of an emergency.

Check out the QR codes on each page to see NZSL in action!

For more resources and videos head over to nzslweek.org.nz



Deaf Aotearoa

Deaf Aotearoa is the Disabled Person's Organisation (DPO) representing the voice of Deaf people in Aotearoa New Zealand.

We are the national service provider for Deaf people and their whanau. We are the NZ representative to the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD).

We work with Deaf communities, families with deaf children, government agencies and other organisations to increase awareness, promote NZSL and advocate for the human rights of Deaf people.

Deaf Aotearoa's services include:

Children and Youth:

Our First Signs service supports families with Deaf and hard of hearing children aged 0-5 years to develop NZSL and an understanding of being Deaf in Aotearoa, in the comfort of their home with whanau and community. Our Youth service supports families and young people as they develop their Deaf identity.

Adults and Seniors:

We support Deaf people aged 16yrs (not in full time school) and over, in a variety of ways: pre and post-employment, Needs Assessments, 1:1 support, advocacy and representation, service co-ordination, access to assistive equipment and Adult Community Education (ACE). We also provide a Disability Information Advisory Service (DIAS) to the Deaf community and public with Deaf-related enquiries and support.



iSign:

Our nationwide interpreter booking agency.

Translation:

We work with government departments and other organisations to translate their documents, resources and videos into NZSL.

Deaf Awareness workshops:

We support organisations to develop their understanding of the Deaf community and NZSL. We aim to make Aotearoa a more accessible and inclusive place to be.

Deaf Aotearoa is community focussed and surpluses go back to the Deaf community by way of sponsorships and donations.

For more information visit deaf.org.nz



National Emergency Management Agency

Te Rākau Whakamarumarū

The **National Emergency Management Agency** (NEMA) is the Government lead for emergency management. We help build a safe and resilient Aotearoa New Zealand by empowering communities before, during and after emergencies. We provide strategic leadership for risk reduction, readiness, response and recovery activities, and build emergency management capability and capacity. We promote greater community and individual resilience to disasters. We also oversee New Zealand's emergency management system to ensure that it operates as expected and to identify opportunities for improvement.

We work to ensure there is good understanding and co-ordination at local, regional and national levels, including among government, iwi, local government, private and community organisations.

We assist in identifying hazards and risks of national significance and provide guidance to Civil Defence and Emergency Management (CDEM) Groups and others on emergency management.



Every May, Deaf Aotearoa organises **NEW ZEALAND SIGN LANGUAGE WEEK** – a celebration of one of the country's official languages.

NZSL Week is a chance for the Deaf community to stand proud as Deaf, and to celebrate their language and culture.

It also works to break down barriers, fears and misconceptions. NZSL Week lets Deaf New Zealanders put their hands up and be seen!

Our vision for NZSL Week is to increase awareness and understanding of NZSL and the Deaf community, and to empower and strengthen the Deaf community.

For more information visit nzslweek.org.nz

How to communicate with a Deaf person

A conversation with a Deaf person is the same as a conversation with a hearing person – Deaf people just use different communication tools.

Like hearing people, Deaf people are unique individuals with interesting qualities and skills. They have families, jobs and hobbies.

You can communicate with Deaf people in several ways, including New Zealand Sign Language, spoken/written English or a mix of these.

Appropriate use of gesture, body language and facial expressions can also be very effective, as Deaf people communicate visually.

Not all Deaf people can lip read well. It's estimated 70% of lip reading is guesswork, even if the speaker articulates clearly. That's why relying solely on lip reading as a way to communicate isn't recommended.

Face the Deaf person and get their attention before speaking. Eye contact is very important so try to maintain it and don't turn away while the Deaf person is signing.

During an emergency press conference, the NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANGEMENT AGENCY will ensure that there is a New Zealand Sign Language Interpreter to fully communicate the information and actions that the public need to take.

A few tips for Sign Language learners

FACIAL EXPRESSIONS

Facial expressions are an important aspect of NZSL. In spoken languages, intonation is used to indicate what kind of sentence it is – a question or statement. NZSL shows intonation using facial expressions. Having a plain facial expression is like speaking with a monotonous voice. **It's boring!**

HAND POSITION

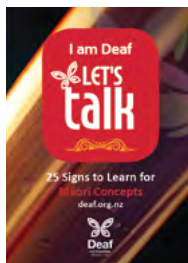
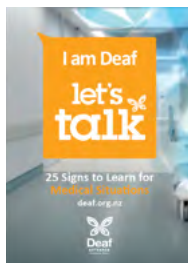
Articulating signs correctly is important – one small change to a handshape or location can make all the difference to your message.

WHICH HAND TO USE?

Your dominant hand (the one you write with) will be the most active hand. For some signs you'll need to use both hands.

It's helpful to see the signs in action – you can look up videos for these signs in the NZSL Dictionary online at nzsl.nz or download the app from Google Play and the Apple App store.





OTHER BOOKLETS IN THE SERIES are available online at nzslweek.org.nz/resources/

For hard copies please email nzsl@deaf.org.nz



25 Signs to Learn for EMERGENCIES

This is one of a series of booklets designed to introduce you to NZSL. It gives you a practical opportunity to quickly learn some basic vocabulary relevant to your environment.

Learn these signs and use them as often as you can. Tell your friends about them and share the wonderful gift of NZSL. Then you'll understand why 20,000 New Zealanders use it every day!

OTHER BOOKLETS:

- 25 Signs to Learn with Your Family
- 25 Signs to Learn for Medical Situations
- 25 Signs to Learn at Work
- 25 Signs to Learn for the Weekend
- 25 Signs to Learn for Māori Concepts
- 25 Signs to Learn for First Signs Families
- 25 Signs to Learn for Bars and Restaurants
- 25 Signs to Learn for Education



Evacuate Putanga





Quick Tere



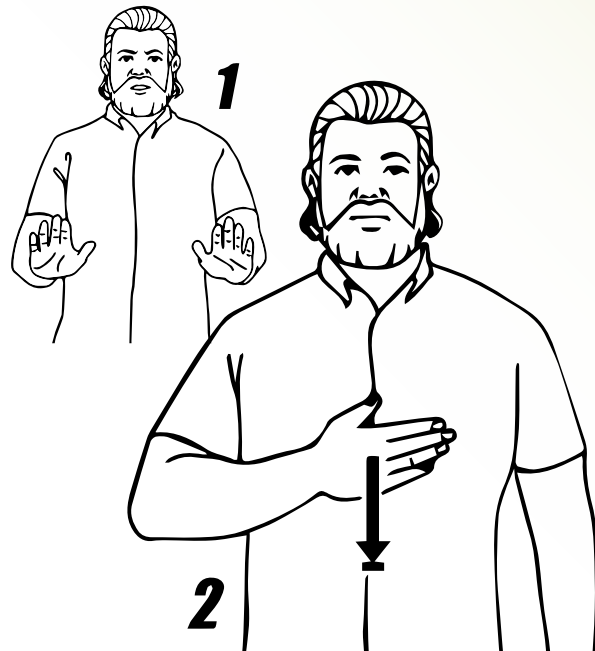


Stay Noho



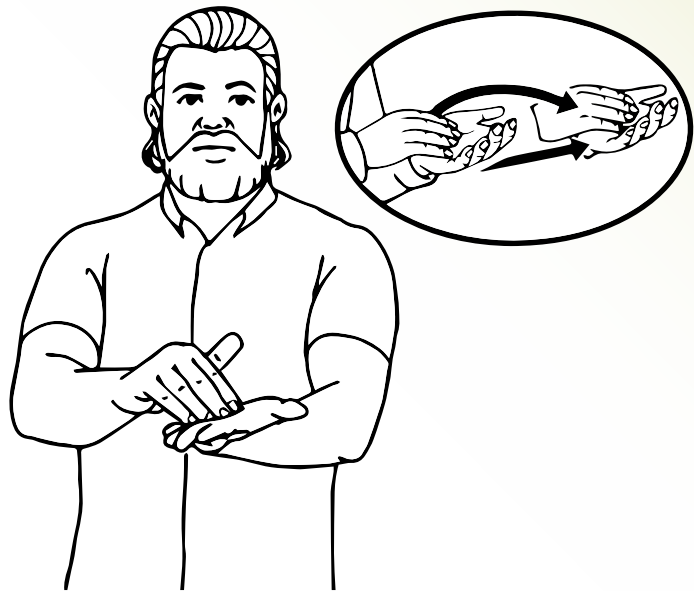


Stay calm Noho tau





Help Āwhina





Run Oma





Go up to high ground
Rere ki ngā wāhi teitei





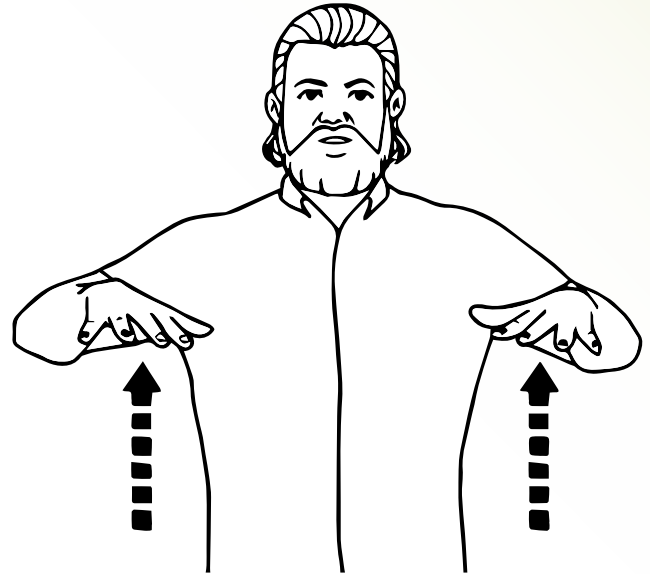
Tsunami

Tai āniwhaniwha



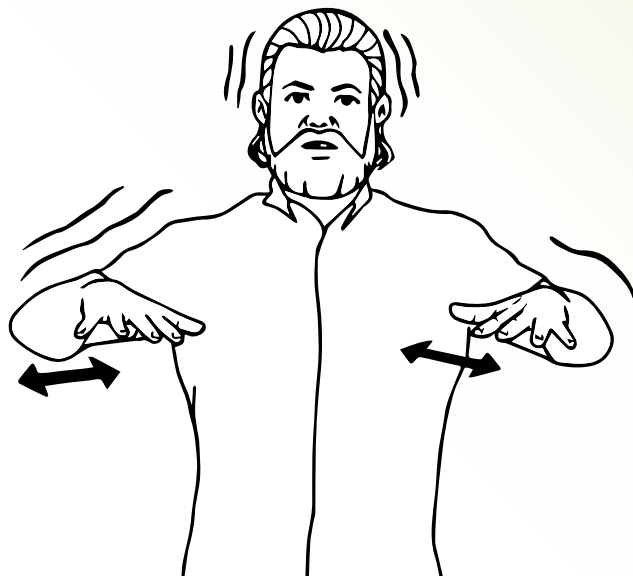


Flood Waipuke





Earthquake Rū whenua





Strong wind

Hau





Fire Ahi



POLICE

Ngā Pirihimana o Aotearoa

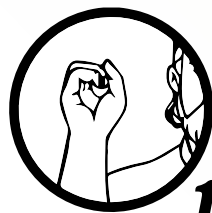


Police Pirihimana





Ambulance Waka tūroro





Alright?
Kei te pai



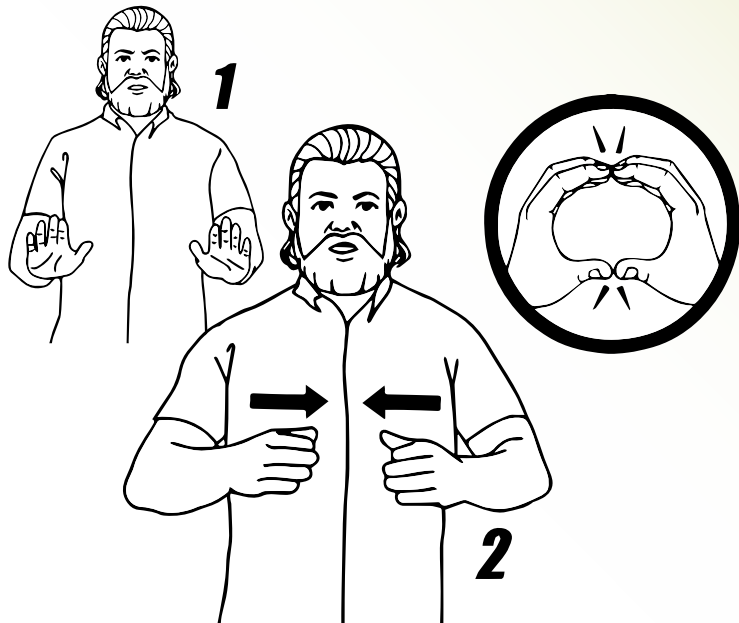


Where? Kei hea





Stay together Nohotahi





Family Whānau





Neighbours

Te taha





Pet Pōtiki





Food Kai





Water Wai





Power Hiko





Phone Waea





Internet Ipurangi





Thanks!

National Emergency Management Agency

Tō Pūkau Whakamarumarū

This booklet is a collaboration between Deaf Aotearoa, National Emergency Management Agency and Auckland Emergency Management. Thank you for the opportunity to collaborate to develop this booklet.

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New Zealand Government

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For more information visit deaf.org.nz





I am Deaf

JAMES



**NEW ZEALAND
SIGN LANGUAGE WEEK**

TE WIKI O TE REO TURI
ANNUALLY DURING MAY