

NDCS is very pleased to announce a new grants scheme to help families with deaf children access Family Sign Language courses. Grants are available to organisations wanting to deliver Family Sign Language courses in the UK using the NDCS Family Sign Language curriculum. For an application form and to find out more please email [sign@ndcs.org.uk](mailto:sign@ndcs.org.uk)

During 2011/2012 the National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS) is providing small grants of up to £500 to enable the delivery of Family Sign Language courses. We are happy to support organisations that will plan and deliver courses to families using the NDCS Family Sign Language resources and curriculum:

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

To be eligible for this grant you must meet our criteria as explained in our Guidelines document. The aim of the grant is to allow Family Sign Language courses to be delivered free of charge to families with deaf children aged 0 – 5 years of age using the NDCS Family Sign Language Curriculum.

We welcome applications from frontline BSL teachers already working with families of deaf children, and local Deaf Children's Societies. This is a rolling programme therefore there is no deadline for applications; however NDCS do have a fixed budget to spend during 2011/2012 so early application or register of interest is advisable.

For further information, please contact Helen Foulkes, Project Manager: Family Sign Language, at National Deaf Children's Society via email: [sign@ndcs.org.uk](mailto:sign@ndcs.org.uk)

### **Small Grants for Family Sign Language Courses: Frequently Asked Questions**

#### Can individuals apply for this grant?

Funding will be available to those who can demonstrate they are currently working with families of deaf children aged 0 to 5 years of age and provide evidence of the families' demand for such a course to meet their communication needs.

#### Can organisations who have previously run a FSL course under the I-Sign Project apply for this grant?

Yes, but priority will be given to new organisations who have not yet delivered the NDCS Family Sign Language Curriculum. Ongoing practical support will be provided by NDCS for existing partners.

#### Can families who have previously attended a FSL course under the I-Sign Project register again for a FSL course during 2011 / 2012?

Yes, but priority will be given to families who have not yet attended a FSL course.

#### What if we have a group of families who are interested in attending a FSL course, but don't know who can deliver this course?

Please do get in touch with Helen Foulkes who may be able to help with suggestions via email: [sign@ndcs.org.uk](mailto:sign@ndcs.org.uk)

Can we charge families for the FSL course?

Charging families to attend is discouraged as this may create a barrier to attendance. FSL courses should be made free of charge and efforts should be made to secure free or low cost venue space. NDCS can provide advice and information about how to set up accessible courses – please contact Helen Foulkes via email: [sign@ndcs.org.uk](mailto:sign@ndcs.org.uk)