

NZSL Online Course Guide

MySign – NZSL Beginners (Level One)



Aims of course:

- understand and use NZSL in simple conversations on familiar topics.
- understand and use basic grammatical structures of NZSL in simple sentences or questions.
- appropriately use visual conversational behaviours in NZSL.
- show basic understanding and awareness of Deaf culture and community in New Zealand.

Learning outcomes:

The curriculum is intended for approximately one year of NZSL learning (equivalent to approximately 40 hours of NZSL tuition plus self-directed learning for approx. 20 hours in total). The 5 parts allow NZSL teachers and learners to continuously build on their NZSL teaching and learning. Each class are 1 hour long per week for 8 weeks.

Beg – Part 1 (0 – 8 hours)	Unit 1	<p>Meeting and greeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> exchange greetings and make introductions understand simple online class instructions learn about the role of facial expression in NZSL learn to get, and give, eyegaze before signing (requirements for visual attention) learn numbers 1-10 learn the fingerspelling alphabet, spell their own name, and ask for repetition
	Unit 2	<p>Our class (<i>learning languages</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identify people in the online class name language(s) they are learning give and follow simple instructions and action commands ask for clarification, correction and confirmation ask and tell where something is in the room use appropriate phrases for arriving late to online class use numbers for counting (0-20) and simple time phrases in the class
Beg – Part 2 (9 – 14 hours)	Unit 3	<p>Needs and wants (<i>food & drinks</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> name common food and drink items make and respond to requests and offers for basic wants and needs ask/tell locations of familiar objects & locations in the immediate environment express likes and dislikes understand basic signs about emergency exit procedures
	Unit 4	<p>Family and Friends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> tell about immediate family/whānau and relationships (e.g. friends, colleagues) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> give and ask personal information about self and others such as where one lives and their pets use numbers for counting, age, ranking

Beg – Part 3 (15 – 23 hours)	Unit 5	Everyday Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • communicate about simple home and leisure daily routines and activities • express feelings about activities • use calendar and clock time phrases
	Unit 6	Small Talk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • start conversations with known and unknown people • make compliments (e.g. appearance, clothing) and congratulations • ask and tell about general wellbeing, health and everyday life • discuss the weather • close a conversation
Beg – Part 4 (24 – 32 hours)	Unit 7	Community and work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • communicate about essential services and locations in their community (e.g. doctor, bank, library) • describe occupations, tasks & transport in relation to work & community activities • negotiate appointments and bookings • discuss prices on use of services and purchases, and ways of payment • Wrap up activities, review, final activity and/or event
	Unit 8	My Place <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • invite others, accept and decline invitations to their home • give and ask for addresses and contact details (e.g. email, mobile number) • describe identifying features of their home (e.g. two storey, brick, white fence) • understand and give simple directions to their homes • identify rooms in the house • name essential household items relevant for visitors (e.g. meals, toilet paper)
Beg – Part 5 (33 – 41 hours)	Unit 9	Events & Celebrations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • communicate about events, celebrations and holidays • talk about destinations (places) and modes of travel • describe and discuss plans • make interruptions (e.g. to ask a third person for information or suggest a different idea) • Wrap up activities, review, final activity and/or event

Grammar

This course will introduce basic grammar and sentence structures in NZSL:

- Personal, possessive and plural pronouns
- Plain statements, negated statements, topic-comment statements
- Yes/No questions, Wh questions
- Use of agreement and spatial verbs
- Contrastive structure, listing and ranking
- Basic classifiers
- Number forms (cardinal, time, age, ordinal, money)

NZSL Conversation Skills

This course will introduce the following conversation behaviours and strategies in NZSL:

- Getting and maintaining eye gaze in a conversation
- Turn taking
- Opening and ending a conversation
- Confirming and clarifying information
- Asking for repetition
- Interrupting appropriately
- Giving listener feedback

Learners will also develop basic understanding and awareness of Deaf culture and community in New Zealand through simple class discussions, use of selected resources, and participation in local Deaf community events as guided by the NZSL teacher.

Next step and Contact Detail

Once you have completed all five parts of NZSL Beginners (Level 1) course, you can move up to Intermediate Level (Level Two). You will need to achieve 80% attendance to join the next levels.

Please contact MySign Co-ordinator if you have any questions at this email address:

mymysign@mergenz.co.nz or by text message: 021 29 39 898.

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