

SFA Purpose Statement	
<b>Qualification Title</b>	<b>IBSL Level 3 Certificate in British Sign Language Studies</b>
<b>Qualification Number</b>	<b>501/1347/1</b>
<b>Qualification Overview: Introduction</b>	<p>The IBSL Level 3 Award in British Sign Language Studies (QCF) is one of a range of qualifications that have been developed to provide stepping stones in a pathway that could ultimately lead towards qualified sign language interpreter status, or a career working with Deaf people in situations where the use of sign language is an everyday communication tool. It has been mapped to the National Occupational Standards for Languages and for one unit, the National Occupational Standards for Intercultural Working, both established by SkillsCFA.</p> <p>The qualification consists of 3 mandatory units (<b>The Total Qualification Time is 120 hours, with a Guided Learning element of 90 hours of Guided Learning</b>) and is designed for learners who wish to further their development in functional BSL communication in more depth than at Level 2, requiring the ability to exchange, present and understand information, ideas, advice and opinions at normal speed, and also develop an awareness of cultural interaction with Deaf people who use BSL.</p> <p>The primary outcome of the qualification is to enable learners to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop interactive communication skills that underpin the ability to understand and present ideas, information and opinions in British Sign Language delivered at normal speed and in normally used social and work registers</li> <li>▪ Develop and maintain business relationships, uncomplicated negotiations and take part in discussions relating to varied accounts, reports and instructions delivered in BSL at normal speed and in normally used social and work registers</li> <li>▪ Prepare for the completion of the full assessment in British Sign Language Studies at Level 3</li> <li>▪ Acquire the wealth and range of British Sign Language skills required to move into the world of work in the workplace or at school/college</li> <li>▪ Gain in confidence by developing study skills which are relevant to a range of work placements.</li> </ul> <p>Ideally, the learner should already have achieved the IBSL Level 2 Certificate in British Sign Language Studies before taking this qualification.</p> <p>This qualification is available to learners of in the 18+ and 19+ age ranges.</p>

	<p>This qualification is aimed at a range of learners including those who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• wish to acquire varied British Sign Language skills at normal speed and in normally used social and work registers for the purpose of working or interacting with Deaf people on a daily or regular basis</li> <li>• need to acquire BSL skills as part of a programme of study or professional development;</li> <li>• are studying for personal development with a view to future employment where higher and more competent BSL skills are necessary;</li> <li>• wish to progress from the IBSL Level 2 Certificate.</li> </ul> <p>The qualification is also suitable for Deaf people wishing to acquire a qualification in their own language, especially for the purpose of evidencing personal literacy skills.</p>
<p><b>What could this qualification lead to?</b></p>	<p>This qualification offers learners the opportunity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Progress towards the acquisition of high levels of British Sign Language skills and competency enabling them to undertake employment at a basic level of two-way communication</li> <li>▪ Gain knowledge and understanding of the Deaf community and in wider society where Deaf people access services</li> <li>▪ Work-based learning</li> <li>▪ Act as a stepping stone towards other, higher qualifications within the British Sign Language Studies suite of qualifications that may enable them to work as Sign Language Interpreters or Communication Support Workers</li> </ul> <p>The skills developed may also be crucial in a wide range of occupational areas such as health and social care, where it is necessary to produce and access a range of information that can be conveyed and understood by Deaf people whose functional language is BSL and to develop interactive skills with this group of people.</p>
<p><b>What comprises the qualification?</b></p>	<p>The qualification consists of three units, all of which are mandatory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand Varied Signed Language in a range of work contexts</li> <li>• Sign using varied language in a range of work contexts</li> <li>• Interact with people from different countries or diverse cultures</li> </ul>
<p><b>How is the qualification assessed and delivered?</b></p>	<p>Assessment includes two externally set and marked examinations in a mixed multiple-choice/Q&amp;A format, plus Centre-marked practical</p>

	<p>and/or theory assessments collated as part of a coursework file.</p> <p>Assessment is completed when an External Examiner visits the centre to conduct a live observation.</p> <p>The qualification can be delivered in a school, college or any other learning setting using a combination of practical workshops and theory sessions.</p>
<p><b>Who supports this qualification?</b></p>	<p>The following FE Colleges, course deliverers and employers recognise this qualification as a progression route in British Sign Language Studies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ West Cheshire College</li> <li>▪ Wirral Metropolitan College</li> <li>▪ British Deaf History Society</li> <li>▪ Sign On! Training &amp; Consultancy</li> <li>▪ Signworld</li> <li>▪ Deafness Support Network</li> </ul>
<p><b>For further information:</b></p>	<p>Please contact IBSL at <a href="http://www.ibsl.org.uk">www.ibsl.org.uk</a></p>