



# SHEPPARTON DEAF FACILITY

## Deaf Education Program

*Supporting Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students*

### About Our Facility

The Shepparton Deaf Facility based at Guthrie Street Primary School, was established in 1995 to provide for Deaf and hard of hearing children who require 'Intensive Language Support'.

The Facility supports the development of both sign and oral communication modes. Auslan interpreting and speech and listening are integral parts of our bilingual philosophy. Each student has an Individual Learning Plan [ILP] with specific goals based around AusVELS and Deaf Facility Curriculum goals.

### How Do we Support Deaf Students?

Students who are Deaf work alongside hearing children of the same age. Students are supported to maintain Deaf and hearing friends. They participate in the same range of activities, subjects and curriculum areas as all other children. Children are also withdrawn to Facility rooms for intensive language, speech, Deaf Studies and English Through Auslan activities. Students also are withdrawn into the Deaf Facility to provide classroom curriculum support and extension.

Our Facility programming and support is based on a Bi-Lingual/Bi-Cultural educational philosophy. This philosophy advocates two languages [Auslan and English] and two cultures [Deaf and Hearing]. To support this approach LOTE [Language Other Than English] / Deaf Studies is part of the curriculum for all students at Guthrie St Primary School. Developing two languages allows students to choose the language that best meets their needs in various contexts, allowing them full inclusion at all times.

### School based support is provided by

- **Teachers of the Deaf** working in partnership with classroom teachers
- **Interpreters** whose responsibility it is to facilitate language between Deaf students and teachers, and Deaf students and hearing students by translating all classroom language into Auslan and English.
- **Deaf Role Models** who support the LOTE – Auslan program and work with Deaf children modeling Deaf culture and language, supporting educational progress.

### Contact Information

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