

Don't forget
the stamp!

Varshali Swadi
The National Deaf Children's Society
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Glasgow
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The National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS) is the leading charity dedicated to creating a world without barriers for deaf children and young people.

If you'd like more information about the BME Family Support Volunteer Network, call Varshali on **0141 354 7855** (v) or **07966 341021** (text) or email **varshali.swadi@ndcs.org.uk**



Varshali

NDCS does not discriminate on the grounds of age, race, religion, disability, gender or sexuality and encourages a wide diversity among our volunteers.

We use the word 'deaf' to refer to all levels of hearing loss. However, we understand that some people may prefer to use other terms.

The National Deaf Children's Society is a registered charity in England and Wales (1016532) and in Scotland (SC040779).
August 2011



Supporting (BME) Families
of Deaf Children in Scotland



اردو Türkçe Polski বাংলা
ਪੰਜਾਬੀ Soomaali العربية Slovenčina

What is the BME Volunteer Network?

We are a group of parents and carers of deaf children that offers information and support to other families from a black and minority ethnic background who have deaf children.

We speak a number of community languages, including Urdu, Punjabi, Polish, Somali and Arabic, to help those families who do not have English as their first language.

How we help parents

- We provide emotional support to parents and families of deaf children.
- We offer communication support to deal with any language and cultural barriers people may experience.
- We can come along to audiology appointments, school meetings, as well as make joint visits with Teachers of the Deaf, NDCS family officers, social workers, speech and language therapists, if required, to make sure that parents have the right information about their child.
- We give basic information on education, health and technology for deaf children.
- We hold coffee mornings; drop in sessions and children's clubs so that parents, deaf children and their siblings get the opportunity to meet other such families.

Think you could help?

You need:

- first-hand experience of deafness, either through being deaf yourself or being a parent or a carer of a deaf child
- the ability to empathise and a non-judgmental approach
- a BME background and/or the ability to speak one or more community languages
- time to train and volunteer for NDCS
- a willingness to provide references and undergo criminal checks.

As a volunteer you will get:

- a sense of satisfaction and achievement from making a difference
- training in transferable skills
- regular support from NDCS and other volunteers
- payment for all out-of-pocket expenses
- opportunities for personal and professional development
- the chance to meet new people and make new friends
- an opportunity to give something back to society.

How do I apply?

Just fill in your details, fold and seal the two sides together, then post. A member of staff will contact you.

Name

Address

..... Postcode

Telephone (voice/text?)

Mobile phone (voice/text?)

Email

How do you prefer to be contacted?

Are you a parent/carer of a deaf child Yes No

Are you... deaf partially deaf hard of hearing hearing

What is your connection to deafness?

To which of the following ethnic groups do you belong?

White British

White other (please specify, e.g. Polish)

Asian or Asian British

Black or Black British

Chinese

Mixed

Other ethnic group (please specify, e.g. Arab)

Prefer not to say/don't know

Which languages do you speak/understand?

When are you available for interview/assessment?

Morning Afternoon Evening Weekend

