

Professional Learning Program

Victorian
Deaf Education
Institute



Understanding the benefits of Auslan for deaf and hard of hearing children

Presented by Dr Gabrielle Hodge

On-Demand Presentation



In this presentation, Dr Gabrielle Hodge examines the benefits of Auslan (Australian Sign Language), with specific reference to deaf and hard of hearing (DHH) children's communicative repertoires. Dr Hodge begins her presentation by discussing the diverse profiles and communication practices of DHH individuals and the prevalence of Deaf sign language users in Australia. The presentation focuses on the use of Auslan, including its path to recognition as a natural community language. Dr Hodge describes some of the key factors influencing individual language learning trajectories and the development of semiotic repertoires through signing. In examining the benefits of Auslan for DHH children's language development, Dr Hodge provides a brief history of Auslan and insight into some of the important features of the language. Dr Hodge also discusses the value of bilingualism in the education of DHH children, highlighting the importance of Auslan in supporting DHH children to acquire a robust and resilient first language.

Learning Outcomes

Participants will:

- Gain an understanding of the diverse communication practices used by children who are deaf or hard of hearing in Australia.
- Learn about Auslan as a natural community language and specific features of Auslan.
- Understand the benefits of Auslan for deaf and hard of hearing children and the value of bilingualism in education.

Fully online, self-paced learning accessible for 4 weeks following registration

\$30.00 incl. GST

Participants who successfully complete this On-Demand Presentation will receive a certificate noting 2 hours of professional learning.

Register online at www.deafeducation.vic.edu.au

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