



Specialised advice, consultancy, training and information provision for Deaf British Sign Language users, Deafened, hard of hearing and Deafblind people

Manchester Deaf Centre

The Manchester Deaf Centre (MDC) is a registered charity and a private company limited by guarantee; you can find out more about us here: www.manchesterdeafcentre.com



MDC has established services that are designed around the bespoke needs of Deaf people. These services endeavour to promote positive wellbeing and resilience, while also providing access to information and services pertaining to advocacy, employment, youth and community. MDC also provides professional communication services to support those who wish to communicate between English and British Sign Language. Our Communication Services empower mainstream providers to become more accessible and engaging to their Deaf service-users.

The Manchester Deaf Centre is also considered to be a social sanctuary where Deaf people can gather on a weekly basis to interact, socialise and learn with their peers. MDC also provides a multitude of training opportunities for both Deaf and hearing people, in an effort to bring communities together, while also striving to improve the quality of lives and experiences of Deaf people.

MDC is a charitable organisation with a Board of Trustees with 60% Deaf representation. Our Trustees therefore have an innate understanding and empathy of the needs of deaf people.

“In 2011 the Manchester Deaf Centre was a small to medium sized enterprise facing imminent closure. Over the past eight years we have fought for our survival and are now working towards a position of sustainability with an outlook of longevity. During our most tumultuous times, Macc has provided Manchester Deaf Centre with integral support in the form of consultancy, advice and also through the provision of necessary training ventures e.g. governance, social enterprise and social values topics. Finding income and funding has always been challenging, however Macc have supported in equipping MDC with necessary skills to seek and secure additional funding streams.”

Furthermore, as an organisation we are very pleased to be nominated in the category of “Service User Involving Organisation” for Macc’s 2019 Spirit of Manchester Awards. This recognition and celebration of our contribution to the Greater Manchester community inevitably raises the profile of Deaf people and promotes awareness when / where it’s needed most.



Macc has provided Manchester Deaf Centre with a variety of support including:

- Developing our Business Plan (and updating this document)
- Funding Application support (critical friend)
- Strategic Planning
- Governance/Trustee Training
- Advice on Membership Structure
- Safeguarding Training
- Advice on Management
- Spirit of Manchester Documentation

***“Macc has played a pivotal role in supporting Manchester Deaf Centre in its journey towards sustainability. With expert business planning support MDC was able to secure £250,000 from the National Lottery (along with other funding from Manchester City Council) thereby sustaining our services across the next few years.*”**

We have always found Macc to be accessible as I can phone and email them with any query and they would support or refer to another organisation appropriate to our query.”

July 2019