

Tim Scannell

Accessibility Consultant | Deaf Awareness Trainer | BSL Teacher

Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, UK

Contact

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Professional Summary

Deaf accessibility consultant, native British Sign Language (BSL) user, and qualified teacher (Level 6). I combine personal lived experience with professional expertise in BSL education, Deaf awareness training, accessibility consultation, and advocacy for assistive communication technology. I support inclusive public services, workplace environments, and educational settings to deliver people-first accessibility strategies.

Core Competencies

- British Sign Language instruction (Level 6 certified)
- Deaf Awareness Training and community education
- Workplace and organisational accessibility auditing
- Consultancy for Disability Student Allowance (DSA), Access to Work (AtW), NHS, and public bodies
- Promotion and demonstration of assistive technologies (e.g. Signly app)

Professional Experience

Accessibility Consultant & Deaf Awareness Trainer

Self-employed, UK

June 2017–Present

- Deliver consultancy for Deaf, hard-of-hearing, and disabled individuals and organisations
- Provide Deaf Awareness training (in-person and virtual) and bespoke BSL courses

- Conduct workplace accessibility audits, guiding clients through inclusive adjustments and legal compliance
- Collaborated with public bodies including DWP, AtW, and DSA-funded students

Social Media Ambassador & Accessibility Advocate

Signly App

- Represent Signly at conferences and public events, promoting accessible digital communication tools
- Provide strategic advice on inclusivity and user engagement for Deaf audiences

BSL Tutor & Deaf Awareness Educator

Various Platforms (since 2005)

- Offer personalised BSL instruction and Deaf awareness workshops to wide audiences (GCSE through professional)
- Hold enhanced DBS and teaching qualifications for work with vulnerable groups

Education & Qualifications

- BSL Level 6 Certificate – Signature UK (2022)
- Stage 1 Certificate in Teaching in Further Education (PTLLS)
- Information, Advice & Guidance (IAG) – Further Education
- BSc in Multimedia Systems Design

Selected Clients & Collaborations

- Bridge House Theatre Warwick
- NHS, AtW, DSA-funded learners
- Collaboration with tech firms on digital accessibility, including Signly integrations

Professional Memberships & Interests

- Advocate for Deaf and Deafblind accessibility, BSL promotion in education and public services
- Deeply engaged with grassroots Deaf community initiatives
- Passionate about user-first, inclusive technology design

Additional Strengths

- Native BSL user with extensive Deaf cultural insight
- Confident facilitator, trainer, and public speaker
- Strong communication skills across sectors (education, health, tech)
- Experienced in interdisciplinary collaboration and stakeholder engagement

Thought Leadership & Advocacy

- Microsoft – Global Accessibility Awareness Day (GAAD) – Featured by Microsoft in diversity and accessibility stories as Signly Ambassador promoting sign language inclusivity.
- Money Advice Trust – BSL & Inclusion – Shared expertise on accessible financial services and Deaf communication.
- SoundCloud Podcast – Vulnerability Matters – Interview on experiences of Deaf banking customers and inclusive communication strategies.
- Queen Mary University – TELT Magazine – Guest contributor about AI's role in accessibility and Deaf-led innovation in tech.
- Lending Standards Board – Recognised in industry guidance on improving banking access for d/Deaf customers.
- Microsoft UK Stories – AI for Good Cohort – Participated in Microsoft's AI-for-Good initiative to drive accessible technology innovation.