

**NDCS will help your leisure organisations achieve your commitments in the following ways –**

- offer leisure organisations professional membership of NDCS
- provide leisure organisations with resources and guidance on deafness, deaf awareness and effective communication
- add the leisure organisations' details to our database of deaf friendly activities. This will be accessible through the Me2 website
- help support and advertise specific deaf-friendly activities the club may organise
- develop possible links or partnerships with local deaf children's societies affiliated to NDCS.

# Me2 Deaf-friendly Activities Pledge



**Any questions please contact**

Email: [me2@ndcs.org.uk](mailto:me2@ndcs.org.uk)

Phone: 0121 234 9820 (voice/text)

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[www.ndcs.org.uk/me2](http://www.ndcs.org.uk/me2)

NDCS is a registered charity in England and Wales no. 1016532 and in Scotland no. SC040779.

Supported by  
  
Children's Workforce  
Development Council

  
every deaf child

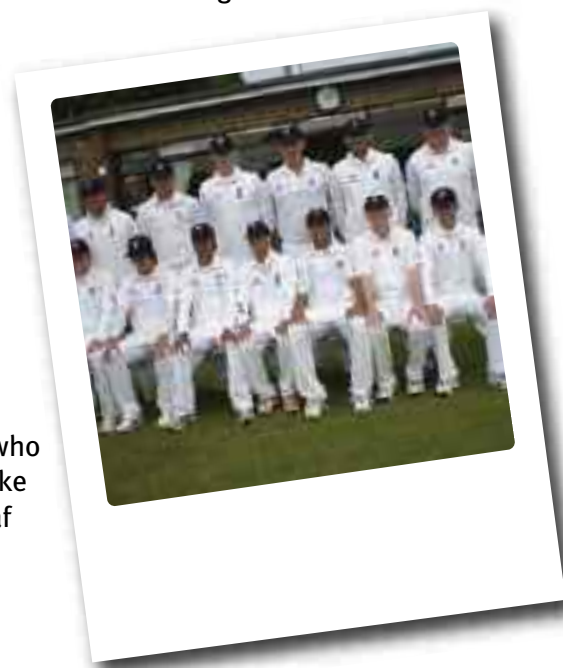
**There are over 45,000 children aged up to 19 in the UK with a permanent hearing loss. They all have the right to the same opportunities as a hearing child. But communication barriers mean that many mainstream youth facilities and activities are not accessible to deaf children and young people, so they are missing out.**

**By signing up to the Me2 Deaf-friendly Leisure Activities Pledge your organisation commits to taking small and simple steps to help break down these barriers and become genuinely inclusive for deaf children and young people.**

**The Me2 Deaf-friendly Leisure Activities Pledge commits you to:**

#### **Being deaf friendly**

- Adopt a positive attitude towards deafness and deaf issues.
- Have the ability to adapt activities to ensure that deaf children and young people can enjoy full access and are able to communicate effectively.
- Ensure that staff and volunteers have a good understanding of what deafness is and are deaf aware.
- Make every effort to ensure hearing group members, staff and volunteers are also deaf aware.
- Recognise and reflect on the needs of deaf children and young people in the organisation's policies, including child protection, equal opportunities and health and safety.
- Establish a named deaf-friendly contact who has an up-to-date email address, and make fax and mobile numbers available for deaf children and young people.



#### **Promoting effective communication**

- Understand the different communication methods that deaf children and young people may use.
- Be aware of the various strategies that promote good communication.
- Encourage the relevant staff and volunteers to undertake Me2 training in communicating effectively with deaf children and young people.



#### **Recognising the abilities of all deaf children and young people and helping them reach their full potential**

- Have consistently high expectations of deaf children and young people's performance, whatever their ability.
- Understand how to support a deaf child or young person and meet their needs whilst they are involved in leisure activities.
- Recognise deaf children and young people as individuals.
- Value their contribution to the organisation and its activities.

#### **Provide equal playing and social opportunities for deaf children and young people**

- Fully include deaf children and young people in activities and social situations.
- Ensure deaf children and young people develop their confidence and self-esteem.
- Ensure deaf children and young people conform to the same standards of discipline and behaviour as their hearing peers.