Training. (maybe not the best title for this page? If you can think of something better that would be good.)

I am based in Maidstone, Kent but am prepared to travel to other locations in the South East. I can provide training during the daytime or evenings on weekdays.

Where journeys to and from Maidstone exceed a total of 30 miles a mileage charge of 20p per mile will apply.

The course costs given below assume that a venue and refreshments for participants are provided. If these need to be provided by me the costs will have to be covered by course participants.

Depending on need the following training options are available:

**Introductory Courses:**  This training is useful to introduce communication skills to persons with no prior knowledge of Signalong. The emphasis is on the practical application of signing.

Introductory courses can be full or ½-day in duration.

Full day introductory course (8 hours) £45 per person. Maximum number of persons 10.

Half day introductory course (4 hours) £30 per person. Maximum number of persons 10.

**Topic based workshops.**

Topic based workshops are appropriate for persons new to sign supported communication who work in a location where knowing specific signs would be beneficial. An example of such a location would be a dental surgery treating patients who have speech and language problems, another would be a children's department in a hospital.

These workshops are for between 1 and 6 persons and , depending on the input needed can be between 3 -5 hours in length at a cost of £25 an hour for each participant. For most locations/ situations an appropriate Signalong manual exists and can be purchased either via me or directly from Signalong. In cases where no manual exists to cover needs a set of specific signs can be purchased.

# The Signalong Foundation Course

This course is the basic building block of Signalong training and is appropriate for persons with or without any prior knowledge of Signalong .

**Course objectives**:

* To understand the method Signalong uses to describe how to perform individual signs
* To learn to sign a core vocabulary
* To develop skills to a level where practitioners can access and use additional signs relevant to their own particular environment
* To understand use of body language and facial expression in communication
* To understand that Signalong is a client led system
* To learn about symbolic development
* To learn about generalisation and over generalisation
* To gain an understanding of basic word levels and key word signing

A Foundation course is 15 hours long ( excluding breaks) and can be delivered in two ways.

1) Six weekly 2 ½ hour sessions (plus ½ hour break) held either during the day or in the evening.

2) Three sessions of five hours (plus two ½ hour breaks) carried out over three consecutive days or evenings.

The maximum number of places on a course is 10 and the minimum is 4.

The cost of a foundation course is £80 per person. It is best if each course participant has their own manual but for a course based on the phase 1 manual I can lend a limited number of manuals if necessary. If another manual would be more appropriate these can be purchased either via me or from Signalong. A list of all available manuals can be found on the Signalong website. An official Signalong Certificate for those who successfully complete a foundation course can be purchased at a cost of £5.20.