

Comprehensive Deaf Pre-School Curriculum

ALIGNED WITH NEP 2020 & ISLRTC GUIDELINES | TOTAL COMMUNICATION PHILOSOPHY

Pedagogical Approach: Total Communication Philosophy

This curriculum integrates Indian Sign Language (ISL), Auditory-Verbal Training (AVT), speechreading (lip-reading), tactile-sensory feedback, and visual-spatial media. It is explicitly structured to support bilingual proficiency, personal confidence, cognitive growth, and seamless readiness for primary school integration.

1. Stage-Wise Developmental Levels

Level 1: Foundation & Early Steps

AGES 2.0 – 3.5 YRS | PRE-NURSERY

- Communication & Sign:** Natural gestural training, 50+ core functional ISL signs (wants, feelings, routine words), facial expression mapping, and joint attention/eye-contact conditioning.
- Auditory & Sensory Integration:** Sound detection conditioning utilizing the Ling-6 Sound Test, tactile sensory exploration, visual tracking exercises, and cause-effect visual-auditory toys.

Level 2: Explorers & Language Builders

AGES 3.5 – 4.5 YRS | NURSERY / LKG

- Communication & Sign:** Dual-mode expressive language (ISL + spoken word approximations), single-hand fingerspelling for numbers (1–20) and alphabet (A–Z), expansion to a 200+ ISL functional word bank.
- Pre-Academics & Auditory:** Phoneme sound awareness via vibrotactile feedback, basic speechreading (lip-reading) drills, visual storyboarding, and color/shape classification.

Level 3: Transition & Primary Readiness

AGES 4.5 – 6.0 YRS | UKG

- Communication & Sign:** Expressive 3–4 word sentence construction using ISL syntax and spoken words, early bilingual print literacy, and structured peer conversation etiquette.
- Academic Prep & Advocacy:** Early mathematical concepts (counting, basic operations, spatial relationships), bilingual story comprehension using NCERT ISL digital resources, and self-advocacy skills (expressing discomfort, personal device care).

2. Core Learning Domains & Assistive Technologies

Domain	Key Focus & Competencies	Tools & Assistive Technologies
Language & Sign Development	ISL vocabulary expansion, fingerspelling fluency, grammar structure, sentence building, and print awareness.	NCERT DIKSHA ISL Modules, Visual Story Cards, Mirror Work Stations.
Auditory & Speech Training		

Domain	Key Focus & Competencies	Tools & Assistive Technologies
	Sound detection, discrimination, identification, speechreading practice, and vocalization encouragement.	FM Hearing Loop Systems, Vibrotactile Tools, SpeechGears Oral-Motor Kits.
Cognitive & Pre-Academic	Early numeracy, sorting, pattern recognition, spatial reasoning, and visual problem-solving.	Tactile Wooden Blocks, Pattern Boards, Interactive Smart Boards.
Sensory & Fine Motor Skills	Finger dexterity (critical for sign execution), hand-eye coordination, balance, and tactile processing.	Theraputty, Textured Sensory Walls, Balance Beams, Threading Beads.
Socio-Emotional Development	Self-identity, emotional expression, peer collaboration, deaf identity pride, and independent choices.	Visual Emotion Wheels, Role-play Costumes, Group Cooperative Games.

3. Daily Classroom Routine

Time Slot	Activity Block & Pedagogical Objective
09:00 AM – 09:30 AM	Visual Morning Circle: Calendar signing (days, weather, feelings), interactive attendance boards, rhythm & vibration mats.
09:30 AM – 10:15 AM	Individualized Speech & Auditory Therapy: Sound-treated 1-on-1 sessions focusing on speechreading, oral-motor drills, and audiogram-matched auditory training.
10:15 AM – 11:15 AM	Pre-Academic & ISL Literacy Block: Co-teaching storytelling sessions (one teacher signing ISL, one speaking English/Hindi), visual flashcard drills, and fingerspelling.
11:15 AM – 12:00 PM	Sensory Integration & Motor Play: Guided activity in specialized sensory rooms, textured tactile stations, and balance beam navigation.
12:00 PM – 12:45 PM	Creative Arts & Visual Expression: Free-form drawing, painting, spatial puzzle solving, and visual light/vibration dance sessions.

4. Parent Empowerment & Home Integration

Weekly Parent ISL Workshops Mandatory hybrid training sessions teaching families 15–20 functional home signs weekly to ensure communication continuity outside the classroom.
Home-School Visual Journal Daily picture-and-sign communication logs bridging classroom achievements with home observations and encouraging parents to reinforce daily themes.
Assistive Technology Management Orientation Hands-on practical training for parents covering daily hearing aid maintenance, battery troubleshooting, and cochlear implant processor care.

