

Guidelines for using the *Signs of God* egroup

The aim of the egroup is to provide a forum for the discussion of British Sign Language in Christian settings. The following guidance is to help everyone to benefit from this resource. The egroup has over 100 people in it and so we hope these guidelines will make it easier for lots of different people to take part as well as those who regularly contribute.

1. You can post queries about BSL, requests for help, comments, ideas, information and news items (and practically anything else you can think of as long as it's relevant to the people on the egroup.)
2. Requests for interpreters may be posted by the Moderator or with the Moderator's permission. Please don't post these requests without permission.
3. It's OK to post an advertisement about an event, but please do not advertise training events that are in direct competition to the training offered by *Signs of God*.
4. Please keep your postings fairly short. No one likes reading loads of text.
5. Use easy language that everyone can understand. Avoid jargon. This is especially important when you are trying to describe how something could be signed, or complicated theology!
6. Please avoid posting messages that simply say "I agree" or "Congratulations" or "thank you". People have plenty of email without those kinds of messages. It may sometimes be more appropriate to respond to some messages privately, not to the whole group. In that case, email the person individually.
7. NEVER pass on SPAM or Virus Warnings or those "pass this on to all your friends" kind of emails. If you do this, you may be removed from the egroup.
8. Never be critical of another person. You can disagree with what they write but always be polite and courteous.
9. Do not use language that may be offensive. A word that you may not consider to be a swear word, someone else may.
10. Please be careful of postings that give opinions of other organisations, especially if the opinions are negative. Remember that if you say something that is untrue (or may be untrue) you may be sued! (Or *Signs of God* may be!!)

Gill Behenna - egroup moderator

Signs of God is a Training Organisation for British Sign Language in Christian Settings.

1 Saxon Way, Bradley Stoke Bristol BS32 9AR

Tel: 01454 202483

email: info@signsofgod.org.uk

visit our website: www.signsofgod.org.uk

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