

UK DEAF SPORT



UK Deaf Sport

“Our mission is for more deaf people to participate in sport throughout their lives and more deaf athletes to perform on the world stage.”

- 53% of people aged 16+ with a hearing impairment were inactive (less than 30 minutes a week) compared to 15% of people without a disability.
- 33% of people aged 16+ with a hearing impairment did not participate in sport or physical activity compared to 5% of people without a disability.
- Children with a hearing impairment are just as likely to be active as those without a disability, but of those children who are less active, 43% of deaf children participate in no activity at all compared to 26% of children with no disability.

Before becoming open data compliant, there was no centralised point for the deaf community to find local opportunities to be active through deaf specific or deaf friendly activities, meaning it was challenging to collate and share this information.

“UK Deaf Sport previously shared information of sessions we were aware of through our social media channels and website only.”

UK Deaf Sport employed a member of staff for two months to collate as much information as possible on deaf specific or deaf friendly activities taking place nationwide, along with also carrying out research to discover other activities taking place. Following this discovery and mapping work, the information was added to [Open Sessions](#) and each organisation was then given their own log in access allowing them to amend, update and add any upcoming sessions or opportunities.

“UK Deaf Sport have created a video with BSL translation to show organisations how to upload and publish activities on Open Sessions to ensure the process can be as inclusive and organisation led as possible.”



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Since publishing activities on Open Sessions, deaf friendly activities can now automatically be found on a range of platforms, however, UK Deaf Sport directs the deaf community to Get Active as a centralised point when asked about local opportunities to be active. Through this work, UK Deaf Sport were also able to create connections with organisations who we have not engaged with previously, allowing us to support them and their work to help get the deaf community more active.

Open Sessions, and becoming open data compliant, allows us to better promote and share deaf specific and deaf friendly activities to the whole deaf community across the country. This has been really beneficial to UK Deaf Sport as it means we can promote the great work activity providers are doing nationwide to help get deaf people more active.

The Open Sessions platform was easy to use and manage, and free of charge. After doing the initial upload of activities, being able to then handover ownership to the individual organisations delivering the sessions has meant all session details can be kept up to date with accurate information.

Our advice would be to use Open Sessions to publish and share information about any sessions you are aware of. This will help to create a central platform for all activities and make it easier for anyone to find ways to be active in their local community.

UK Deaf Sport will continue to promote and share sessions through Open Sessions and will continue to support all organisations we work with to ensure their activities can be promoted as widely as possible.

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