



CELEBRATING

**NATIONAL WEEK OF
DEAF PEOPLE 2026**

WHAT IS NATIONAL WEEK OF DEAF PEOPLE?

Every September, Deaf Connect celebrates National Week of Deaf People (NWDP), a week-long national celebration of Deaf individuals and the Australian Deaf community. This includes celebrating the International Week of Deaf People (IWDP) and International Day of Sign Languages (IDSL) which are initiatives of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD).

This year's theme is Declaring Deaf People's Human Rights.



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WHY IT MATTERS FOR YOUR WORKPLACE

Accessibility is a shared responsibility. Small, consistent actions build an inclusive workplace over time. National Week of Deaf People is a good moment to start, or keep going, by learning about Deaf culture and standing with your Deaf colleagues and customers.

Quick Facts:

- 1 in 6 Australians lives with hearing loss
- Deaf employees and customers thrive in workplaces that include them
- Deaf awareness is both a practical skill and a value statement



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TIPS FOR COMMUNICATING WITH DEAF COLLEAGUES

- Tip 1:** Ask them how they prefer to communicate. Preferences can include: Auslan interpreters, lip-reading, real-time captioning and more.
- Tip 2:** Supplement verbal communication with written instructions or summaries, especially for complex information.
- Tip 3:** Share meeting materials (such as agendas or slides) in advance to allow for preparation.



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HOW TO PARTICIPATE

1

Display the poster

Print or display the NWDP poster in your office, break room, or digital screens from 21-27 September. Every display is a signal that inclusion matters in your workplace.

2

Share on social media

Use the social tile included in this kit to post on your company's social channels. Copy is pre-written on the next page, just add your logo and post.

3

Share the email banner

Add the NWDP banner to your internal newsletter or staff email for the week of 21-27 September. A simple header swap is all it takes.



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USING YOUR SOCIAL TILE

**Your NWDP social tile is ready to post.
Here's how:**



1. Download the social tile from the link provided in your kit email.
2. Post to your company LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram or other social channel on or around 13 April.
3. Use the caption below:

We're proud to recognise National Week of Deaf People: a national celebration of the Australian Deaf community. At [Company Name], we're committed to inclusion in all its forms. #NWDP2026 #DeafAwareness @DeafConnectAU



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USING YOUR EMAIL BANNER



Variant 1



Variant 2

The NWDP email banner is sized to fit standard email headers (640 × 360px). To use it:

1. Download the banner from the link provided in your kit email.
2. Insert it at the top of your internal newsletter or staff email for the week of NWDP.
3. Optional: link the banner to deafconnect.org.au/nwdp for staff who want to learn more.



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TAKE IT FURTHER

Want to do more? We'd love to help.

NWDP is a great starting point, but real inclusion goes beyond one week. Deaf Connect offers a range of workplace programs designed to build genuine Deaf awareness across your team.



Deaf Awareness Training

Structured, Deaf-led workplace training that builds lasting inclusive practices. Suitable for teams of all sizes.

ENQUIRE VIA [DEAFCONNECT.ORG.AU/COURSE/DEAF-AWARENESS-TRAINING](https://deafconnect.org.au/course/deaf-awareness-training)

Questions?

Reach us at info@deafconnect.org.au or visit deafconnect.org.au