ANGEL SHED

INCLUSIVITY THROUGH THEATRE

MAKATON TRAINING



07910 822412 www.angelshedtheatre.org.uk training@angelshedtheatre.org.uk

WHAT IS MAKATON?

Makaton is a multi-modal communication programme that uses symbols (pictures), signs (gestures) and speech to support communication. It supports the development of essential communication and interpersonal skills, such as attention and listening, comprehension, memory, recall, and promotes independence and agency of choice.

Over 100,000 children and adults use Makaton symbols and signs, either as their main method of communication or as a way to support speech (Makaton Charity, 2026). Makaton is often used with Disabled, autistic and neurodivergent young people and adults, including those with Down syndrome and those who are non-speaking, as well as early years to support the development of language. However, anyone can benefit from using Makaton.

You can find out more on the Makaton website here.





WHAT WE OFFER



We deliver full-day training sessions, in person or online, to a minimum of 10 people and maximum of 15 people per day.

Each level takes one full day (8 hours, including breaks) to complete and costs £121 per person. Included in the price:

- Free and friendly consultation call by our Training Manager
- Training by a licensed Makaton tutor
- Manual to complete during training and for revision post training
- Certificate of attendance

We offer Level 1 - Level 4 Makaton training:

Level	Content	Suitable for	Entry Criteria	Cost
Level 1	• Hints and tips for effective signing and symbol use. • How to start using Makaton in everyday situations at home or work. • Learn the signs and symbols from Stages 1 and 2, and some of the Additional stage, of the Core Vocabulary.	Anyone with an interest in Makaton.	No previous Makaton experience required.	£121 per person
Level 2	• Learn the signs and symbols from Stages 3 and 4, and the rest of the Additional stage, of the Core Vocabulary.	Those looking to continue their Makaton learning journey.	Participants must have attended Level 1 training.	£121 per person
Level 3	• Revise the signs and symbols you learned in Level 1 and 2. • Learn the signs and symbols for Stages 5 and 6 of the Core Vocabulary.	Those looking to continue their Makaton learning journey.	Participants must have attended Level 1 & 2 training.	£121 per person
Level 4	• Revise the signs and symbols you learned in Level 1, 2 and 3. • Learn the signs and symbols for Stages 7 and 8 of the Core Vocabulary.	Those looking to continue their Makaton learning journey.	Participants must have attended Level 1, 2 & 3 training.	£121 per person

If you are not sure whether Makaton training is for you, try a Makaton Taster session. Get in touch to find out more!

WHO WE WORK WITH

We have delivered training for a wide range of organisations working across the arts, education, youth, and charity sectors, including:

- YOUTH CLUBS
- ARTS CENTRES
- SCHOOLS
- SPORTS CLUBS
- TRAINING & CAREERS SERVICES
- COACHING & PUBLIC SPEAKING CHARITIES
- FURTHER EDUCATION COLLEGES
- ARTS & CULTURAL ORGANISATIONS
- SPECIALIST SEN GROUPS
- EARLY YEAR PROVISIONS
- LOCAL AUTHORITIES
- THEATRE COMPANIES

We would recommend Makaton training to anyone who is looking to communicate more inclusively with their colleagues, service users or participants, particularly if you work with:

- Disabled, neurodivergent or autistic people
- Babies, toddlers and early years
- Those who are learning English for the first time
- Those who are non-speaking
- Those who need more support to process or understand instructions or information
- Those who use alternate communication styles, including Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) devices
- Those who benefit from picture-based communication

> *After the training, I feel inspired and more confident to create an even more inclusive space for anyone that comes through our doors in the future, including those who are non-speaking.*
>
> **Participant**

TRUSTED BY:

Capital City College

Speakers Trust – Speak and Be Heard

Little Angel Theatre

PQA – The Pauline Quirke Academy of Performing Arts

Prospex – Potential Made Possible

First Give

The Roundhouse

Spotlight

Shoreditch Trust

Arsenal in the Community

Islington – For a more equal future

ual: university of the arts london

ABOUT US

Inclusivity is at the core of Angel Shed's work. Our weekly sessions reach over 100 children and young people per term; over half of whom have special educational needs or are Disabled. Our outreach delivery engages hundreds annually in schools, youth clubs, women's refuges, pupil referral units and specialist schools.

To ensure we provide an inclusive environment for everyone who engages with Angel Shed, we utilise Makaton signing when delivering instructions to the whole group as well as with individuals who particularly benefit from it. We use symbols in session resources and creative captions for shows as well as creatively intertwining Makaton sign in our choreography.

We therefore have the hands-on experience and practical knowledge to support your team to not only learn Makaton, but to understand how to apply it into your day to day work.

In addition to providing high quality training for your staff, by booking with Angel Shed you will be supporting our work as a charity; all profits from our training delivery go directly towards our work with children and young people, driving meaningful change in the community.

> *My favourite part of the training was the reflections the trainer gave on her own practice, highlighting how she uses Makaton in her day to day work. It was really useful and felt like practical learning that I can apply.*
>
> **Participant**



MEET YOUR TRAINER

Lauren Phillips is Angel Shed's Creative Director, an inclusive arts practitioner and a licensed Makaton Tutor with over ten years' experience developing and delivering accessible creative programmes for children, young people, and Disabled adults.

Her relationship with Makaton is both professional and personal. Growing up alongside her Disabled brother, who was non-speaking until around the age of ten, Lauren experienced first-hand the importance of communication that meets people where they are. This continues to shape her approach to inclusive practice, with a strong belief that everyone deserves to express themselves, make choices and be understood.

As a trainer, Lauren is passionate about making Makaton accessible, practical and enjoyable. She wants people to leave training feeling confident to use what they have learnt in everyday interactions.

> *Angel Shed made the session fun and easy to learn. We had a great tutor!*
>
> **Participant**



Lauren
she/her

FAQS



We work with Deaf children who use British Sign Language (BSL). Is Makaton the same as BSL?
Makaton is different to British Sign Language and they are used by different communities of people. Makaton combines speech, signing, and symbols, specifically supporting those with learning or communication difficulties and can be used internationally. British Sign Language (BSL) is its own language with its own extensive vocabulary and syntax. It has existed for centuries and is primarily used by the Deaf community in the UK. BSL is not international; there are hundreds of different sign languages around the world. For more about the difference between Makaton and BSL, head to the Makaton website here.

Our staff already use Makaton. Can we start at Level 2 if we haven't completed Level 1?
It's great to hear your staff already use Makaton! Unfortunately, you can only attend Level 2 training, if you've already completed Level 1.

Some of our team are neurodivergent and benefit from shorter training sessions. Can the full day be split up?
Yes, we are very happy to explore any adaptations to the training session to suit the learning styles of your team. Each Level can be split into modules. To discuss further how this could work for your organisation, get in touch.

We're based outside of London. Can you deliver outside of London?
Yes, we can deliver in person or online training to organisations outside of London. Please note, an additional cost may occur for in person trainings outside of London.

If you have more questions or need more information, get in touch to arrange a free, friendly consultation call.

CONTACT US

If you are ready to book, or would like more information, please get in touch:

training@angelshedtheatre.org.uk

www.angelshedtheatre.org.uk

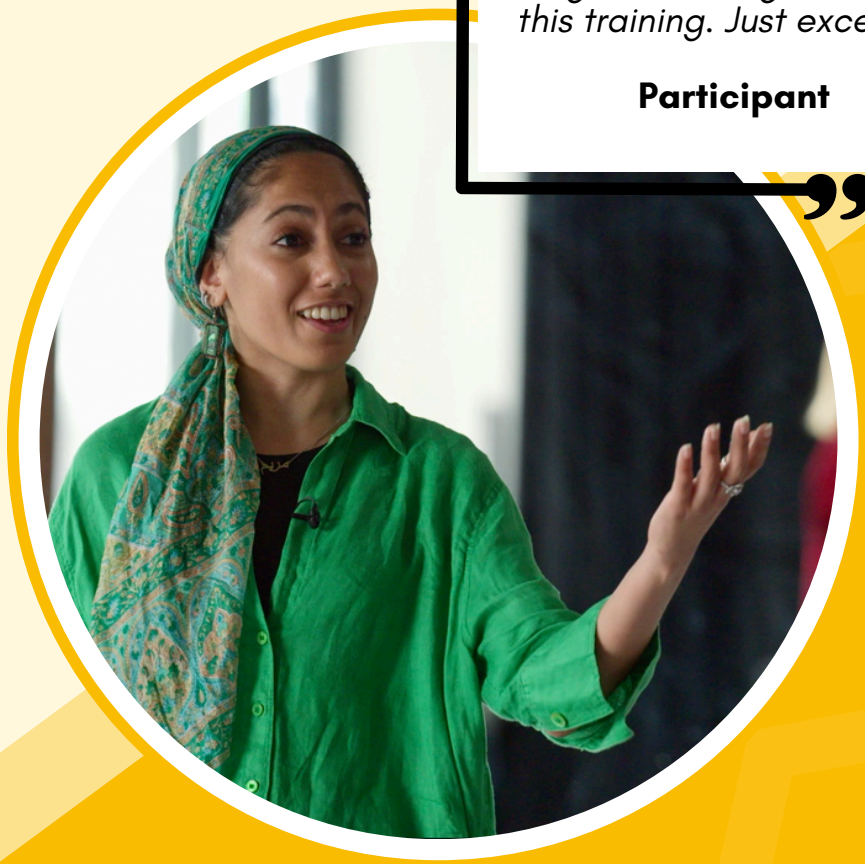
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I would love to see more organisations go through this training. Just excellent!

Participant



Angel Shed is a registered charity: 1195194