

Irish Sign Language - Colours



Brown



Black



White



Yellow



Orange



Purple



Place the 'O' shape
scissors near dark.
More dots on
face.



An illustrated booklet **2018**
of basic Irish Sign Language (ISL)
Proudly brought to you by Athy Sing & Sign Club



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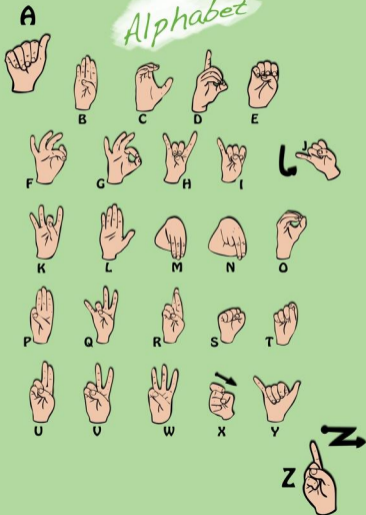
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ATHY SING SIGN
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 Comhairle Contae Chill Dara
Kildare County Council

The Alphabet



A note from Aoife (Chairperson)

Hi everyone! My name is Aoife Harrington and I am the new chairperson of Athy Sing and Sign Club.

Athy Sing and Sign Club was formed over 10 years ago by Aiden McHugh and a group of his Gaisce students. Since then, the club has grown and evolved into something amazing. Every Saturday evening our wonderful instructor Maggie Owens teaches our members Irish Sign Language (ISL).

ISL is a beautiful, creative and unique language with its own syntax, linguistics and grammar.

Just last year on the 24th of December 2017, the Deaf Community got the perfect Christmas present as President Michael D Higgins signed the ISL Act 2017, making ISL the Third Official Language of Ireland along with English and Gaelige.

Our group learn ISL through the medium of songs and general topics and we now provide both Beginners and Advanced classes. We have performed in Christmas shows, and put on two amazing musicals - Mama Mia & Grease! We are proud to be involved in many events in our local community and we are especially proud of our Annual Athy ISL Festival.

We hope that you enjoy one of the many events available during this ISL festival and we cannot wait to promote the continued use and growth of ISL in Ireland.

Athy Sing & Sign at Athy Library for Culture Night, with Culture Night ambassador Eric Donovan and organiser Colm Walsh.

(Photo: Evelyn Lyman)



ATHY

Sing and Sign
Highlights of 2018

JANUARY

LEO HARRIS did his work experience in the Deaf Village Ireland (DVI) as part of his Transition Year Course. Leo got to work in different departments in the DVI and to communicate with different people in the Deaf Community in ISL. Here is a photo of Leo working in the HUB! A lively social café for the Deaf Community.



APRIL

We were delighted when one of our students Aoife Harrington passed her 2nd year of Deaf Studies in Trinity College, where she is training to become an interpreter.

We are super proud of you Aoife!



MAY

We participated in a fundraiser organised by Athy Rugby Club called **Athy's Got Talent**. This was a fantastic experience for our group.

Maeve Phelin did the lead vocal and guitar to the song 'High Hopes' by Kodaline, accompanied by Wayne Kelly, Leo Harris, Meg Harris, Molly Goldrick, Caroline Halpin, Alison Phelin, and Jessica Webb.

We were thrilled that the Judges Martin Miley, Patricia Berry and Brian Dooley gave us the PERFECT SCORE of three 10s!



MARCH

Athy Sing & Sign participated in the St. Patrick's Day parade this year. The theme was 'Love Athy'. We would like to thank local artist Brendan O'Rourke for creating our beautiful signs for the parade. It was a great day!



DECEMBER

On the 14th of December our teacher Maggie Owens went to Dail Eireann to witness the Irish Sign Language Bill 2017 being passed. This was a historic and emotional day for the Deaf Community. Now Irish Sign Language is 3rd official language of Ireland along with Gaelige and English. Senator Mark Daly, the ISL campaign team and members of the deaf community have been campaigning for many years to make this happen.

On Christmas Eve 2017 the Deaf Community got the best present ever when President Michael D Higgins signed the bill making ISL officially the 3rd language of Ireland.

AUGUST

We set up a new Junior Class where our students taught the younger students for 8 weeks. We invited Kildare Arts Development Officer Lucina Russell to present the students with their certificates. Well done to all our Tutors & tutees!



Athy Library

Athy Library is housed in the former Dominican Church, an iconic and eye-catching building dating from the 1960s.

Following the departure of the Dominican Order from the town in 2017, the building underwent extensive refurbishments at a cost of €4m to transform it into the modern and welcoming amenity it is today. The redevelopment project was co-funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and Kildare County Council, and Athy's new library Officially opened in May 2018.

Hands together similar to when praying



+

Then opening as if opening a book



1. Book

2 fingers to represent 2 eyes



Move in a zigzag pattern down to palm of other hand
Like eyes reading a page

SS



3. Library

This is a what we call a "compound sign"

First make the "Book" sign as in (1) above.

Followed by



Make several "chopping" motions as if indicating a row of books

5. Author

Another compound sign

First make the 'Book' sign as in (1) above

Followed by ...



One hand positioned as if holding a pen, and the other hand palm up. Move the 'pen' hand across as if writing something



4. Borrow

Two fists held together away from the body

Then moved back towards the chest



Sports

Bring 2 fists together

Then turn them one forward one back

Then the reverse.



Sports

Football

Hands positioned as if holding a football



Badminton

Finger around thumb as in the sign for the letter T



Make a gesture similar to serving in badminton



Basketball

Make the motion of bouncing a basketball



Rugby

Make the motion of throwing a rugby ball



Dragon Boat

Make gesture as if paddling



+

Make the front of a boat using the fingers



Then move hands forward away from body



And the ISL sign for Chocolate!



Both hands held up
Palms facing forward
And shake!

Numbers



Special Occasions

