

Visual

A man signing information in Auslan against a plain white background.

Dialogue

Hi, my name is Bader. I am the director and founder here at Signpedia.

What drove me to establish Signpedia? I am Deaf myself and have in life endured many barriers to information and communication. My experience throughout school wasn't strong. An education in an English environment didn't support my capacity to engage with language, develop concepts or exchange ideas. This left me feeling disconnected. However, in surviving and adapting, I became an independent Deaf person. I thought I was the only one who experienced problems, and everyone seemed to be doing fine. I had accepted this belief. Later in my life, many deaf people I had met reflected the same barriers I had experienced, and we began to consider how we can teach, and guide others using our skills and lived experience. We are passionate about removing barriers, fostering growth and instilling resilience against future barriers.

When did Signpedia start? In 2008. Before and after 2008 I had worked and volunteered in many different roles. In 2008, we established this company initially working in video production to increase literacy and language acquisition. Some Deaf people may struggle with words. We used visual language to allow for understanding. Many people do not feel confident with English, so having the English word, a picture and the iconic sign shown, users are able to link the English visually and comprehend. This method has seen to improve vocabulary. A confidence through comprehension.

Signpedia has produced documentaries showing our Australian land, allowing those who may not have access to be inspired and also share in local customs, providing a connection to land, knowledge and a motivation to see more themselves.

In 2017, we focused our passion on our community. Signpedia began to diversify our services and entered the NDIS space. In doing so, I found that we were able to support you better. We began to develop Signpedia to support more of you to achieve your goals with our support. Signpedia provide support all over Australia. We have teams in Western Australia, South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. I'm very proud of our team. Many of our staff are Deaf and almost all of our staff can sign. What we all do have is either lived experience ourselves, challenging barriers or peer experience of supporting a relative. At Signpedia, we all have the same goal. That is, to empower you and support you to share and feel connected. Our team is amazing. They truly bring passion to Signpedia's vision whilst working to support you.

Signpedia's journey in summary: Have you also felt or experienced barriers and maybe moments of anxiety when participating in our community? Do you feel you were are to achieve your goals? The barrier is the problem. Everybody has strengths and weaknesses, and we, here at Signpedia, focus on your strengths and support you and guide you whilst sharing our experiences and skills, developing teamwork together. I look forward to working with you.