Making decisions

Mental capacity, best interests and DoLS

Everyone has the right to make their **own decisions**, even ones others may not agree with.

We will give people the **help they need** to make a decision, like simple words, pictures or the right time of day.

If someone cannot decide

Sometimes illness, like dementia, means a person cannot make a certain decision. We check this **one decision at a time**.

We then make a **best interests** decision. We ask the family, friends and health staff what the person would want.

If the person has a **Lasting Power of Attorney** or deputy, they make the decision. Please give us a copy.

If there is no family, we ask for an **independent advocate**.

Keeping someone safe (DoLS)

Sometimes we must limit a person's freedom to keep them safe, for example a locked front door. We must ask **Sandwell Council** for permission. This is called a **DoLS**.

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We will tell you about it. You can ask questions or **challenge it** at any time.

Aa

You can have this leaflet in **bigger print** or **another language**. Just ask a member of staff.

All our family leaflets
Scan with your phone camera, or visit winchester-care.co.uk/families

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